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Yazov Addresses Warsaw Pact Defense Ministers

LD0805133690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1210 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow 8 May (TASS)—TASS correspondent Oleg Moskovskiy writes:

Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Yazov, USSR minister of defense, has had a meeting today with members of delegations from the Warsaw Pact member states who have arrived in the Soviet capital to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the victory over fascist Germany. The military delegations from the allied countries are headed by: from the People's Republic of Bulgaria—Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defense; from the Republic of Hungary—Colonel General Lajos Morocz, secretary of state at the Ministry of Defense; from the GDR—Rainer Eppelmann, minister of disarmament and defense; from the Republic of Poland—Army General Florian Siwicki, minister of national defense; from Romania—Chief of the General Staff Colonel General Vasile Ionel; from the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic—Colonel General Miloslav Blahnik, deputy chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces.

Marshal Dmitriy Yazov spoke at the meeting. The Soviet people's victory over Hitlerite Germany, he noted, brought the peoples of Europe deliverance from fascist enslavement. More than 7 million Soviet troops took part in the battles to liberate the 11 European countries, whose total population numbered over 110 million, that were occupied by the Hitlerites.

An immensely high price was paid by the Soviet people to deliver mankind from the fascist plague, stressed Dmitriy Yazov. More than a million Soviet soldiers and officers laid down their lives in fulfilling their mission of liberation. Their feat, performed in the name of freedom, social progress, and peace, was one of the keystones of cooperation between the fraternal countries, which united in a defensive alliance, the Warsaw Treaty Organization.

The whole history of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, the 35th anniversary of which will be marked in a week's time, has confirmed its loyalty to the goal declared in May 1955 of stability and peace in Europe, the minister said. The maintenance of the security of the fraternal countries, the prevention of war, and the maintenance of peace on our continent are the main service and main outcome of the work of the Warsaw Treaty Organization over the past 35 years.

"A large role in resolving this task also belongs to the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact. They are a component of the military-strategic balance with NATO, a balance which is a major factor of international stability and security," the minister said.

Speaking about the destiny of the Warsaw Pact, its role and place in the system of collective security in Europe, Marshal Yazov pointed out that the growing proportion of political means in the activities of the Warsaw Treaty Organization is growing. This assumes corresponding steps by the other side. "It is precisely on a mutual basis that the gradual transformation of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO into politico-military organizations and instruments of political cooperation is possible," he declared. Dmitriy Yazov believes that the questions of the unification of Germany can be naturally tackled only along such lines. "Its membership in NATO would lead to a breach of the existing balance of forces, and thereby to destabilization of the situation on the continent. Such an option is therefore unacceptable," Marshal Dmitriy Yazov said in conclusion.

The same day, the delegations of the Warsaw Pact member countries laid wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin wall.

Pact Ministers Lay Victory Day Wreaths

PM0905110190 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 May 90 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "From All the Living to the Dead"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] On the same day [8 May] wreaths were laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by:

war and labor veterans and participants in the military parade in Red Square;

USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union D.T. Yazov, military commanders, and generals and admirals of the Soviet Armed Forces;

military delegations from Warsaw Pact states: Bulgaria, headed by National Defense Minister Army General D. Dzhurov; Hungary, headed by Defense Ministry State Secretary Colonel General L. Morocz; GDR, headed by Disarmament and Defense Minister R. Eppelmann; Poland, headed by National Defense Minister Army General F. Siwicki; Romania, headed by Romanian Army Chief of General Staff Colonel General V. Ionel; Czech and Slovak Federative Republic, headed by Joint Armed Forces Deputy Chief of Staff Colonel General M. Blahnik;

Ambassadors G. Koenig of the GDR and G. Pankov of Bulgaria. [passage omitted]

Further on 'Two Plus Four' Talks

Zagladin Warning

LD0805150790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1346 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Bonn (ADN-reporter)—In the opinion of President Gorbachev's foreign policy adviser Vadim Zagladin, all-German membership in NATO would "provoke a new division of Europe, with the borders of this divide being shifted eastwards." In an interview published in Bonn today by the Parliamentary Political Press Service (PPP), he warned against attempts to turn the "Two Plus Four" formula into "Five Against One," if the three Western powers and the two German states attempt to achieve "unilateral advantages," place the USSR in an "unequal legal position," and force on it a decision which "would fundamentally worsen its military-strategic position." Even if the notion of a new division of Europe appears strong, the CPSU Central Committee member said, "clear words are required" at this time. How the Soviet Union would act in the case referred to, Zagladin said, depends "on circumstances and above all on the actions of our Western treaty partners."

In the Soviet politician's view, the lifting of the Four Power rights and obligations toward Germany can only take place in a package. In this—as Foreign Minister Shevardnadze also pointed out at the "Two Plus Four" talks in Bonn—"the solution of the internal and external aspects of German unity need not necessarily coincide in time." Even after the unification of Germany, Zagladin said, certain measures connected with the solution of the external questions of the settlement would probably continue to remain in force for some years. The rights of the Four Powers did not derive from the division of Germany "but from the defeat of German fascism." The creation of guarantees against a repetition of the sad past, in which all Europeans and non-Europeans are interested, would be a signal for a lifting of the rights and obligations of the Four Powers.

The use of Article 23 of the Basic Law for unification would, in the opnion of the Soviet expert, "mean not a unification of the two states but assimilation of one state by another." This article permits all possible conjectures, for instance, about what parts of Germany are meant. In addition, there is an article in the Basic Law which declares all Germans resident on the territory of the Germany of 1937 to be citizens of the Federal Republic. Also known is the decision of the Federal Constitutional Court on Germany continuing to exist in the borders of 1937. In these conclusions, Zagladin warned, there exists an "element of ambiguity."

Soviet Troops in GDR

LD0805101190 Moscow World Service in English 0710 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpts] The foreign ministers of the two Germanys and the four victor nations in the Second World War have concluded their first meeting on the future of the German states. Our observer Petr Vasilyev has the details:

[Vasilyev] The ministers at this "Two Plus Four" conference agreed on speeding German unity while leaving the question of the united Germany's military status unresolved. [passage omitted]

What kind of a military acceptable solution can be found? Could it boil down to just political membership of NATO, like that of France for example, or should it be something else? One thing is clear: No matter what kind of solution is found, a united Germany has to be integrated politically and economically in a structure that will serve as the construction site, so to say, for a common European house, and thus become a guarantee of European security.

A Soviet Communist Party adviser, General Geliy Batenin, has pointed to the necessity to maintain the Soviet military presence in East Germany during the transitional period to avoid any upset in the military balance in the region. But once the transitional period was over, according to Gen. Batenin, the need for the Soviet troops there would disappear as a new European security structure would have appeared.

Batenin said: What we need is a compromise. We must work for the creation of a new European security system with a united Germany becoming part of it, but we shouldn't act hastily and destroy the existing system without creating a new one. It should be a new political structure of European security not based on antagonistic alliances, said Gen. Geliy Batenin.

German Unification

AU0905093090 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 4 May 90 p 3

["Exclusive" article by Major General Geli Viktorovich Batenin, military expert of the CPSU Central Committee: "Preferred Variety: All of Germany in NATO"]

[Text] While most Germans are currently calculating the costs and benefits of the monetary union or are worried about the small print of the state treaty, foreign policy experts in Europe and North America are intensively dealing with the question of which role a future Germany will play in the world. In preparation for the "Two Plus Four" talks over the weekend, we asked Geli Viktorovich Batenin, a leading USSR major general and military expert of the CPSU Central Committee, for his analysis of the security policy concepts for the unification of GDR and FRG:

Of all events of the political life in Europe the unification of Germany is the most important one. With the emergence of a new Germany on the continent, Europe's postwar history comes to an end.

After Helsinki Yalta and Potsdam became and anachronism of the cold war, whose primary intention was the division of Germany. This intention led to the military confrontation between East and West. It was the focal point of the attention of a European security policy, which was based on purely military principles of the balance between the military forces of the organization of the Warsaw Pact and NATO. In this balance the FRG and the GDR played a key role. This probably also explains the continuing existence of the four-power status of Germany over a period of almost half a century.

Even though the project of the single European home, as proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev, turned the vector of European relations in the direction of political, economic, and scientific-technological approach between East and West, it avoided the question of the unification of the two Germanys. The syndrome of the "anschluss" still burdened our political thinking one or two years ago, when we tried to predict the future.

Could we imagine during Gorbachev's triumphant visit to the FRG in the summer of 1989—where the German question was in the air—that we would be witnesses of the establishment of a monetary, economic, and social union of the two German states today? Hardly one of the Soviet analysts was able to think through those military strategic problems, which are linked with the unification of two Germany states, for instance their separate membership in the Warsaw Pact and in NATO.

With the unification of Germany the traditional line of military East-West confrontation, that is, today's national border between the FRG and the GDR, is eliminated. The Vienna negotiations of the 23 states will not help in this respect. Their mandate to achieve general stability in Europe was worked out long before the events which have shaken up all East European states. And this mandate is naturally based on the foundation of the current bloc membership of the two German states. Only somewhere at the end of the tunnel, which was to lead to stability, the politicians saw the all-European security structure: some in form of military political cooperation, others in integration, in the abolition of NATO and the Warsaw Pact. However, the course of history overtook our common European boat in which we are still sitting. Each on his own side. Germany is uniting.

In our view the most complicated question, which is today faced by all European countries, by the United States and Canada, is the determination of the military strategic position of the new Germany. This particularly applies to the transitional period on the path toward an all-European nonaligned structure of mutual security within the framework of the CSCE process. This will need at least 5 to 10 years. About the same period will be needed for a complete economic merging of the two Germanys, for adjustment in the social and legal fields, and for the establishment of firm federative relations. There are various concepts for this transitional period: complete or limited NATO membership of Germany; simultaneous membership in NATO and in the Warsaw Pact; neutrality; and nonalignment. Two of these concepts—Germany remains completely in NATO or Germany will be a country which belongs to both blocs at the same time—have already been recognized as official standpoints. The U.S. leadership and the NATO heads came out in favor of the first concept, the Soviet foreign minister has come out in favor of the second one. In this connection, the Soviet side has made it clear in a sufficiently direct way, that a NATO membership of the united Germany is not desired.

Thus, one has to look for compromises. And this has to be done because the so-called special responsibility of the four states for Germany is not abolished by anyone as long as these four states do not delegate their rights, which were set down in Yalta and Potsdam, within the framework of the CSCE process. What is needed is a new document, which must have even greater political importance than the Helsinki Final Act of 1975. It is probably realistic to assume that such a document—the setting down of principles for a new security system—will be drawn up by the end of the year. However, one will need years to implement it.

I would like to stress that a neutral or nonaligned Germany would hardly be in line with European security interests. The military and economic potential of a united Germany concentrated in the center of Europe would give rise to serious concerns among its neighbors who would be deprived of the possibility of integrating Germany in a joint security systems by means of political instruments. In addition, Germany will not only become an economic but also a political giant. Therefore, chances are slim that it will voluntarily accept "military-political impotence."

The concept of "double membership" of a united Germany in the two blocs would only be useful if the Warsaw Pact would have good perspectives for the future. However, in view of the new governments in the East European countries, there is no hope for such perspectives. The transformation of the organization of the Warsaw Pact from a military-political into a political-military organization is currently under way. The CSFR, one of the most important Warsaw Pact countries in military terms, is virtually on the verge of leaving the alliance. Similar developments are to be observed in Hungary and Romania. The ideological basis of the Warsaw Pact—born out of barracks-type socialism and supported through the efforts of the former party and state leaders—has been destroyed. As a matter of fact, "double membership" is pursuing the goal of somehow balancing the military-strategic situation in central Europe. However, given the current situation, this concept might yield opposite results. In addition, the concept of "double membership" may have a destabilizing influence on the process of unification of the two Germanys because in this way confrontation between the Warsaw Pact and NATO will continue to focus on the territory of the united Germany.

There are two aspects to membership in NATO of a united Germany—a political and a military aspect. A sovereign state has the right to choose a security system. NATO has developed political structures. The best variant will be to include the whole of Germany into the political organization of NATO. The military jurisdiction of NATO will remain effective on the territory of the present-day FRG. In other words, concerning its military incorporation in NATO, Germany will retain its current status during the entire transition period. The Bundeswehr, being part of NATO's United Armed Forces, will remain within the boundaries of the Western part of a united Germany. In the Eastern part, the National People's Army will continue to exist, however, it will no longer be under the operational control of the United Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact. The pace of this process will be coordinated with the pace of the process of unification between the two states.

A nonaligned army will develop on the basis of the National People's Army, which is subject only to national control. As a result, the military-strategic balance will be considerably upset in this region. To prevent a dramatic destabilization of the strategic situation, the military presence of the USSR in the GDR will continue to be required. Just like the presence of U.S. forces in the FRG, Soviet presence must be regulated on the basis of agreements to be concluded in Vienna, as well as on the basis of new documents that we expect to be adopted at the second all-European CSCE meeting which is scheduled to be held in the fall.

The demilitarization of Germany can only be viewed in connection with European disarmament. It is not realistic to demand such a thing from an economically and politically potent country. However, the further development of the idea of the common European home and the creation of new security structures on the continent opens up good perspectives for coordinated and comprehensive disarmament measures. The Vienna talks on general stability are in part directed toward this goal.

I have now briefly discussed the need for Soviet and U.S. military presence in Germany. We believe that this need will even increase during the transition period, particularly the need for Soviet presence. As already pointed out, one must not allow a disruption of the balance of power during this period. Such a danger does exist. It will be caused by membership in NATO (even mere political membership) of the future Germany and the weakening of the organization of the Warsaw Pact, which partly results from the elimination of the National People's Army from its operational control.

I would like to stress that this only applies to the transition period. With the gradual formation of a nonaligned system of mutual security, the need for foreign military presence will disappear.

Security Aspects of German Question Viewed

PM0805091790 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 May 90 First Edition p 3

[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA observer Manki Ponomarev article under the "World Today: Problems and Opinions" rubric: "Germany, Europe, the World"]

[Text] Leading politicians from Europe's leading states and the United States have a packed diplomatic calendar at this time in May. Here are a few facts. There was an extraordinary session of the NATO Council at foreign minister level in Brussels on Thursday 3 May. On Friday the Soviet foreign minister had a conversation in Bonn with the FRG chancellor, and then the leaders of the USSR and U.S. foreign policy departments met with their West German counterpart. On the same day U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker had a meeting with the Common Market foreign ministers. Full-scale "Two Plus Four" talks began in Bonn on Saturday. At the same time the French president visited Britain. The 47th sitting of the North Atlantic bloc Nuclear Planning Group will be held in Canada 9-10 May. Conversations between U.S. President G. Bush and FRG Chancellor H. Kohl are scheduled for 17 May. J. Baker will be in Moscow 16 through 19 May in order to complete with E.A. Shevardnadze the preparations for the Soviet-U.S. summit scheduled for 30 May-2 June.

If we try to single out the main crucial element at all these sittings, talks, conversations, and meetings, I think that it is the German question and the problems involved with German unification or—more precisely—with the external political conditions for unification. However, this assertion, which is in itself correct, should not be considered exhaustive. However important everything connected with German unity may be, it is not only and not so much a question of German unity as of the preservation and consolidation, or, on the contrary, the weakening of security for the German people themselves and the peoples of the European continent and the whole world. It is not merely Germany but also Europe and the whole world, their present and future, that is the heart of the stormy debates at this time.

Why has Germany become the focus of European and indeed of worldwide politics? Because it is a question of the reconstruction in the center of the European continent of an economically and politically powerful state which by virtue of its very position could play a hegemonic role in West Europe. Because the events of 50 years ago, when Germany involved mankind in a bloody world war—the 45th anniversary of our victory in which we are currently celebrating—are still fresh in our minds. Because the solution of the German problem has become the touchstone by which East-West relations are gauged.

The extraordinary NATO Council session showed this to be the case. Its participants reached the unanimous opinion that a united Germany must be a "full member" of the bloc. Any other options were rejected from the outset, so to speak. That is perhaps the council's most important decision.

However, Germany was not the only topic of discussion. Counting on unification occurring on Western conditions, the session's participants concluded that NATO has an opportunity to avail itself of a historic chance to move on from confrontation to cooperation with the countries of East Europe. In this connection U.S. plans to abandon the modernization of the tactical nuclear weapons sited in Europe and withdraw all nuclear artillery munitions (something in the order of 4,000 units) were set out.

But there is a disquieting element. Has this proposal—which, incidentally, many U.S. allies developed a long time ago—been put forward for discussion at precisely this time in order, so to speak, to soften the impact of the session's decisions on the German question and relieve the USSR's concern? Especially since plans to replace the old tactical nuclear systems with new ones—"air-ground" tactical nuclear missiles—have been made public at this time. The intention is for approximately 400 of these missiles to be deployed in Belgium, Greece, Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, the FRG, and Turkey by the end of next year. At present they have a range of 400 km, but it is planned to increase this to 1,000 km. Given the delivery aircrafts' operating range, this would enable aircraft based in Britain, for instance, to even hit facilities in the Soviet Union beyond the Urals. Consequently, they are, practically speaking, little different from strategic weapons and will replace the intermediate-range missiles that have been destroyed under the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles. It is planned to discuss these plans in detail at the NATO Nuclear Planning Group session next week near Calgary (Canada).

The question of reforms within the North Atlantic alliance was put on the council session agenda. During its work G. Bush, speaking in Washington, proposed convening a meeting of the heads of state and government of the bloc countries in June-July to discuss these draft reforms. It should consider a new concept for the alliance's structure, changes in its tasks, and its organizational structure. But the main aim of such a meeting, G. Bush stressed, "must be to elaborate a wide-ranging NATO strategy for the changing Europe of the nineties." The president set out in detail his idea of the North Atlantic alliance's future and the main avenues for America's European policy the next day, when speaking at Oklahoma State University.

Europe is certainly changing before our very eyes. The bloc leaders do not see any need today to overtly target the bloc against the Soviet Union. "The Soviet Union's position today is determined to a considerable extent by the fact that it has effectively no allies left in Europe," NATO Secretary General M. Woerner stated. This is generating hopes in the West of the possibility of isolation of the USSR.

There is a bitter taste to the realization that in the international arena now the Soviet Union often does not operate from the strongest of positions. There is a peculiar kind of inverse relationship here. We rightly say that recent achievements in USSR foreign policy are easing considerably the resolution of complex internal problems. On the contrary, our internal situation—economic disruption, an increase in interethnic dissension, and separatist tendencies—seriously affects our foreign policy potential and restricts our freedom to maneuver.

This can be discerned in many areas. One being everything relating to German unification.

When these lines were being written, the "Two Plus Four" meeting opened in Bonn at the level of the leaders of the foreign policy departments of the countries involved. There is tremendous interest in it. This special forum, in whose work representatives of the USSR, the United States, France, Britain, the GDR, and the FRG are participating, is to settle the external aspects of building German unity, including security questions. The military-political status of a future united Germany and other questions are the center of attention for the participants.

The main problem at the talks—and one can say this even now—is the question of a united Germany's membership of NATO. The bloc allies are endeavoring to leave the Soviet Union—which objects in principle to a future Germany being a member of NATO—isolated and decide the question against its will. You can often see reports in the Western press that these talks are not in effect proceeding according to the "Two Plus Four" but but according to the "Five Plus One" formula, with the Soviet Union being the "One."

We must not forget, however, that as one of the victorious powers in World War II the Soviet Union bears responsibility for Germany's future—a responsibility which no one has taken or can take away. The USSR's stance must not be regarded as uncompromising. On the contrary, it is proposing various options. One being that a united Germany should be a member of both NATO and the Warsaw Pact at the same time. The USSR believes that it would be easier under these conditions to synchronize the process of German unification with the process of all-European building and creating a new system of security not on a bloc basis but within the framework of the whole continent.

This process must sum up once and for all the results of World War II in terms of international law. If it proves possible to reach an agreement on the conclusion of a treaty of this kind or other similar forms of a peace settlement, this will facilitate the building of a future German state and help to determine its status and to resolve the question of discontinuing the four powers' rights and responsibility. It is said that the procedure for elaborating a treaty of this kind is too complex; after all, more than 50 states who fought Germany have to participate in it. Well, maybe this path is complex. But it is just and accords with the interests of the peoples throughout the world.

The task is not to attempt to isolate or prevent anyone from taking part in the processes of elaborating decisions which are of vital importance for all mankind but to seek common points of contact. That is the Soviet Union's proposed path. It has already been tested in the course of the implementation of the ideas of the new political thinking. I would venture to remind you of one moment in M.S. Gorbachev's speech at his meeting in Nizhniy Tagil. Wherever you went during the cold war years, he said, the following questions arose from all quarters: When will there be a war? Will there be a war or not? Now I meet people "and no one asks whether there will be a war, they don't mention it." Does this not indicate, is this not proof that we have been able, despite all the difficulties and vicissitudes, to learn what is obviously the most important lesson from the events of the war which ended with our Great Victory 45 years ago?

Today we do not aspire to greater security for ourselves either on the German question or other international problems. But we will not agree—however hard this may be—to less security.

Prospects for NATO, Pact Politicization Examined

PM0805102090 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 May 90 First Edition p 3

[Article by M. Monin, retired major general and doctor of historical sciences: "The Politicization of the Warsaw Pact and NATO: Practicability and Prospects"]

[Text] For decades the situation in Europe has been determined by the presence of two huge opposing military-political alliances—the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Warsaw Pact. Recently, countries of both East and West have been increasingly actively discussing the possibility of the politicization of both alliances. This idea was first put forward by the Soviet Union, and at the summer 1989 conference of their Political Consultative Committee the Warsaw Pact member states underlined their proclaimed goal of preparing for the disbandment of the Warsaw Pact and NATO through the all-European process.

The new political thinking which is gradually being introduced into the practice of international relations is bearing fruit. Mankind is coming out of the cold war, and the immediate threat of nuclear missile war has noticeably diminished, although the causes of wars have not yet been eliminated. At the same time the United States and its European allies have not yet shown any readiness to part with their military bloc at the same time as the abolition of the Warsaw Pact, and continue to cling to military doctrines devised during the cold war. But it is only fair to note that they are now intimidating their peoples less with "the threat from the East," and recognize—on an official level also—the necessity of reacting positively to the reductions in armed forces and armaments and in military expenditure made by the Warsaw Pact countries.

The North Atlantic alliance is moving, albeit as yet insufficiently decisively, toward a political dialogue with the Warsaw Pact Organization, which, given the mutual willingness of both sides, may facilitate the search for the means of mutual understanding and the lessening of military confrontation in Europe. In this context a speech by Belgian Foreign Minister [title as published] Guy Coeme in favor of the politicization of NATO and a review of its military doctrines and structures is significant. Ideas close to this point of view are also being expressed in other Western countries, and this is connected in particular with the all-European process—the construction of a new Europe based on mutual understanding, cooperation, trust, and the balance of the interests of all states.

But here too, not everything is running smoothly. The desire shown by the West to resolve the problem of Germany's unification by means of its inclusion in NATO is unacceptable for the Soviet Union, because it would severely upset the military-strategic balance in Europe. A united Germany should have the same kind of commitments toward the Soviet Union and the countries of East Europe as toward the United States and the other NATO countries. In this light, I consider the attainment of an agreement on the continued presence of Soviet troops on German territory to be important.

If NATO and the Warsaw Pact were transformed from military-political organizations into political-military organizations—and this, given the presence of the political will on both sides, may be entirely practicable—the necessity for arguing where a united Germany should be would no longer arise. In such a case it could be a member of both NATO and the Warsaw Pact at the same time, without creating a threat either to the West or to the East. But the North Atlantic alliance will not even hear of this. It follows that a united Germany is needed in NATO not to "keep an eye on its behavior," but for other, manifestly self-seeking considerations—to strengthen NATO and weaken the Warsaw Pact. It is impossible to agree to this.

There are still very strong and influential military and other circles in NATO which have not ceased to think in cold war terms, and which refuse to recognize that, in the nuclear missile era, peace can and must be founded not on the balance of power, but on the balance of interests of the parties, of their equal rights in the implementation of measures of a defensive character. The desire, through inertia, to see the opposite side only as an enemy is still making itself felt. Consequently, the militarist flywheel of the North Atlantic bloc is spinning at high speed, and they are in no hurry to stop it.

Meanwhile, the process of transforming the Warsaw Pact from a military-political alliance into a political-military alliance can be realized only in direct dependency on the extent to which NATO, not in words but in deeds, follows an analogous course. This transformation must be implemented on a parallel basis in both alliances, so that no disruption of the existing military-strategic parity occurs.

It is difficult to overestimate the practical significance of the politicization of the Warsaw Pact and NATO and the development of their cooperation. The significance, it appears to me, lies first in the fact that opportunities would open up for transferring the activity of the blocs into a nonconfrontational channel, and for setting up a permanent constructive dialogue between them on all questions—including those of a military character—which could accelerate the liberation of Europe from the two powerful opposing forces. The USSR sees as one of its most important foreign policy tasks the creation, together with other states, of a new system of European security—on the basis of the all-European process and the Helsinki Final Act. On this point, the creation of an all-European center for averting the danger of war and other all-European organs would have great significance.

Our country, occupying as it does a constructive position, does not refuse to discuss other possibilities, too. For instance, General Schmueckle, former deputy supreme commander of the NATO allied armed forces in Europe, proposed creating a new European system of defense with USSR participation, in which, in his words, "both NATO and the Warsaw Pact would dissolve" step by step.

Second, with the politicization of both blocs, opportunities for the successful conclusion of the talks being held in Vienna on conventional armed forces in Europe would be significantly increased. And third, politicization would lead to a growth in trust between states, and on this basis, to all-around development of mutual cooperation across a wide spectrum of relations: the economy, science and technology, ecology, human rights, and so forth.

It is possible to assert with confidence that the mutual politicization of the Warsaw Pact and NATO would aid the creation of a nonviolent Europe, which would set a good example for other regions of the planet.

Supporters of the maintenance of a hard line vis-a-vis the USSR and its allies call on the countries of the West not to hurry with the politicization of NATO's activity, putting their trust in centrifugal forces within the Warsaw Pact Organization. Of course, the changes that have taken place in the countries of East Europe cannot pass entirely unnoticed for the Warsaw Pact. The emergence of different opinions and even definite disagreements in the drafting and agreement of collective decisions in the leading organs of the alliance should not be ruled out. It is important for business relations, collaboration, and cooperation to be based on an equal footing. All this is entirely possible if we and our allies conduct a correct, deeply thought out policy.

'International Situation' on Germanys, Other Issues

LD0405181390

[Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0930 GMT on 4 May broadcasts the "International Situation" program presented by radio commentator Kazbek Basiyev. Participating in the program are Basiyev's colleague Viktor Levin, internatonal affairs correspondent Boris Parkhomenko, radio correspondent Andrey Trapezhnikov, and radio correspondent in Bucharest Sergey Zheleznyak.

The program starts off with a discussion of German unification. Viktor Levin, just back from a trip to the FRG, comments on letters from listeners about German unification. The majority of letters, he says, have been sent by veterans of the Great Patriotic War. Leven disagrees with a woman from Amur Oblast, who writes that Germans cannot be trusted. He says that revanchists and neo-Nazis are a minority in today's FRG. Regarding the claim that German neo- Fascists are spreading their swastikas in Blagoveshchensk, previous Soviet leaders should be blamed for this, because they led to terrible errors in young people's upbringing. In reply to letters from women from Nizhniy Tagil and Rubtsovsk that the Germans should not be allowed to unite, Levin points out that Soviet people have no right at all to pose the question in such a way. It is the Germans' natural right to live in a single German state and it is up to them to decide how the process of unification should proceed. He fully agrees with a man from Tula Oblast who writes: "We must ensure that a united Germany is a peaceful state"; and with a man from Kiev Oblast who demands guarantees for Germany's peaceful development. Under the "two plus four" mechanism, the Soviet Government will draw up these guarantees, together with other governments.

In reply to two letters' claiming that, unlike the Soviet Union, NATO is not withdrawing its troops, but on the contrary is increasing them, Levin says that NATO—above all the Americans—is reducing its troops. Also, the Bundeswehr is now drawing up specific plans to reduce its armed forces. Levin goes on to point out that the West does not want to profit from the discomfiture of the Warsaw Pact; as the general political atmosphere in the world has changed due to a decline in the threat of war. A man from Krasnodar Kray points out that while guarantees for Poland's western borders are very much in the news, no demands are being made for the existence of Kaliningrad Oblast, formerly a German territory, to be guaranteed. Levin says that the Western side is not raising this matter, that is to say, this matter has been settled by the principle of the inviolability of borders enshrined in the Helsinki agreements.

In a letter from Kurgan, a man expresses his indignation at Tel-Aviv's policy of aggression and genocide vis-a-vis the Palestinian people and asks whether the Arab countries can create a joint army and "bring the Israelis to their senses." Parkhomenko says that entering into a direct military confrontation on a purely racial basis—

Arabs against Jews—would mean stooping to the same level of "immorality" as Israel itself in denying the Palestinian people's rights to independence and self-determination, let alone the thousands upon thousands of innocent victims such a clash would cause. Parkhomenko supports setting up a united political front of Arab states in the struggle for the peaceful restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Despite the fact that the political infrastructures of Arab unity are fairly extensive, achieving true unity by these means continues to elude the Arab world.

Trapezhnikov then interviews Mr. Jeelof, vice president of the Philips concern. The latter, who speaks in English, presents his point of view on the prospects for the development of economic relations between East and West.

Listeners are interested in the December Revolution in Romania and the events which have been taking place there in the past few months. Zheleznyak replies to a number of questions, which are read out by Basiyev.

Then Basiyev replies to questions about the UN World Court and recalls the 1984 and 1986 verdicts it issued against the United States over its military actions against Nicargue and its interference in that country's internal affairs.

Anxiety Over Revanchism in United Germany Voiced

PM0805145790 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 May 90 First Edition p 5

[Major M. Pogorelyy article: "Unfestive Jubilee: Reflections on 45th Anniversary of the German People's Liberation from Fascism"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] During my years of service with the Western Group of Forces I met a number of times with Germans who had lived through the war: Participants in the antifascist Resistance, veterans of the "Edelweiss" SS division, members of the German Communist Party, and former members of the Hitler youth movement. All of them without exception, as I recall—including their children and grandchildren—were absolutely sincerely convinced that war must never break out from German soil again nor even the threat of war. And recently during a conversation between H. Kohl and M.S. Gorbachev, the FRG chancellor gave another version of that formula that was even more compelling—"only peace must ever arise from German soil." Thus, millions of people in the two German states have drawn the appropriate lessons from the experience of fascist domination and also from World War II.

However, concern lives on in the hearts of many Soviet citizens. It is expressed in the newspapers, on television, and in radio interviews. The cause of the alarm is the negative potential in Germany's history and fears of the possibility of its being manifested in the future. For example, P. Tilug, a war invalid and former lieutenant, asks: What will happen when the sensible H. Kohl is replaced by other leaders? What if the leadership of the new and powerful German state includes revanchist force full of aggressive aspirations? Such concern is also expressed in a letter to the editorial office by veteran N. Gvozdik: Might it not happen that those who sign the relevant treaties and commitments will one day be replaced by those who think and act differently?

Well, it must be acknowledged that these anxieties are well founded because both revanchist and neofascist forces do exist today, unfortunately, not only in the FRG (according to official figures there are over 20 groupings there) but also in the GDR. With active Western support, right-wing extremist parties of a neofascist type—"republicans" and the "national alternative"—are developing their activity there.

According to the statistics of the GDR institute of youth studies and the calculations of sociologists from Leipzig, around two percent of adolescents and, in the major cities, at least six percent of young people presently favor right-wing radicals.

It is well known that between 1933-1945 communists, social democrats, the progressive bourgeoisie, and other forces waged a joint struggle against fascism in Germany itself. Now, too, there is a call for various, often heterogeneous, political forces to pool their efforts to achieve solutions which take into account not only German interests but also the security of other states. In a civilized society it is impossible to ensure one's own well-being by infringing the interests of others—this conclusion, I think, is quite relevant on the day of the anniversary of the destruction of the "1000-Year Reich" and the liberation of the European peoples—including the German people—from its sway.

Woerner Sees USSR as 'Partner in Security'

PM0905100990 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 May 90 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Cooperation Instead of Confrontation"]

[Text] NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner said in Washington that the NATO summit recently suggested by U.S. President Bush is most likely to take place in the first half of July in London.

Woerner said this when he made a stop in the U.S. capital en route for Canada, where the NATO Nuclear Planning Group is to meet 9-10 May. Woerner had a half-hour conversation with President Bush in the White House Monday.

Woerner stressed: "We are obviously moving away from confrontation toward cooperation, and we see the alliance not as an instrument of confrontation but as an element of cooperation in a new security structure." According to him, NATO will be "an essential, if not the most vital basis" of this structure.

The secretary general noted that this structure would also involve the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact states.

"Thus, it is perfectly clear that we see the Soviet Union as a partner in security," he continued. "And we want them to view our alliance not as an antagonistic institution or confrontational element but as a partner in security."

At the same time, Woerner confirmed the North Atlantic bloc's stance on the future of a united Germany. He stressed that it must be part of NATO and rejected the possibility of a neutral united German state.

Analyst Comments on Statement

LD0805165990 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 8 May 90

[By TASS political analyst Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS—We are looking to the Soviet Union as a partner in security. We want it to look upon our alliance not as an antagonistic institution or an element of confrontation but as a partner in security, NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner told a news conference in Washington.

A reasonable, approach, in line with present day requirements, but genuine partnership between NATO and the Warsaw Pact would require both blocs to transform from military-political organisations into political-military or, still better, political organisations. They would have to turn from the arms race and rivalry and rely on constructive dialogue and the joint search for ways to strengthen European security.

It has been noted with satisfaction in Moscow that many political and public leaders in NATO countries have increasingly advocated reform in or even disbanding the two blocs in order to reduce military confrontation.

However, the picture would not be complete without taking into account another trend.

The peaceful reforms of NATO and the Warsaw Pact call for discarding earlier, rather risky military doctrines. The situation is such, however, that while the Soviet Union proclaimed and has consistently implemented its defence—sufficiency doctrine, NATO leaders have been loath to give up their allegiance to the first nuclear strike plans and their loyalty to the concept of "advanced positions defence." And how should we view—in the light of calls for partnership—the recently published U.S. plans to deploy extended-range tactical nuclear air-to-surface missiles in some NATO member-countries?

The obvious discrepancy between calls for partnership and NATO's actual plans is easily discernible in Woerner's statement. In one sentence he stresses that NATO seeks to adapt to changing circumstances. In another he insists on the united Germany's membership in NATO and calls for keeping NATO's nuclear weapons deployed in West German territory. This plan, should it be implemented, could substantially infringe on Soviet security interests and tip the balance of forces existing in Europe. Certain Western quarters seem to insist on new Germany's NATO membership because they want to legally perpetuate the existence of this military bloc.

The politicisation of NATO and WTO, their partnership and their constructive dialogue are quite feasible. This prospect is certainly welcome. But this process is a two-day street—efforts and political will must be displayed by both sides. It is to be regretted that Mr. Woerner seems oblivious of this expedient condition for any partnership.

FRG President's Polish Visit Viewed

PM0905093590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 May 90 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent L. Toporkov dispatch: "Living as Good Neighbors"]

[Text] Warsaw— The four-day visit to Poland of FRG President R. von Weizsaecker has ended. The visit was an important event in the political life both of these two countries and of Europe as a whole.

Not only were relations between Warsaw and Bonn discussed during the visit but also the topical problem of the reunification of the two Germanys, which is of concern to all European states and peoples. Interest in the visit was also evoked by the personality of the high-ranking guest, who as a young man took part in the attack on Poland and subsequently also on the Soviet Union as an officer in Hitler's Wehrmacht. He came out of the war with an acutely negative attitude toward it, and on becoming a prominent politician he gained prestige by his realistic approach to the postwar arrangement of Europe.

The head of the West German state met and had talks with President W. Jaruzelski of the Polish Republic, Prime Minister Mazowiecki, L. Walesa, chairman of "Solidarity," and a number of other officials. Wide-ranging questions were discussed—pertaining in particular to everything that is of concern to the two countries' governments and peoples.

The talks participants devoted much time to the main burden of the past—the tragedy of the war and Poland's occupation. The FRG president, who attaches great importance to moral values, said frankly: We Germans attacked Poland and are guilty of crimes and destruction on its territory.

It was no accident that the word "reconciliation" rang out frequently during the talks. In its commentary the newspaper ZYCIE WARSZAWY noted that, in speaking about reconciliation, von Weizsaecker was focusing on the future. Reconciliation does not mean wiping from the memory everything that has happened, because what has happened makes it possible to correctly assess the past for the sake of the future. The West German president stressed his conviction that the Polish-German border along the Oder-Neisse line is not liable to revision. At the same time, this border must not divide, it must serve as a bridge. The guest from Bonn expressed himself against the anachronistic bloc thinking.

This viewpoint is also close to the Polish leaders. Speaking at a reception in honor of the FRG president at the "Victoria" Hotel, Jaruzelski said that without genuine reconciliation between the two peoples living in central Europe it would be difficult to speak of the unity of our continent. The contribution of the two states and peoples to this historic cause will depend on their honest cooperation. We hope, Jaruzelski said, that a united democratic Germany will play a constructive role in the integration of Europe and will serve stability, mutual trust, and collective security in this part of the world.

During the talks the question of compensation for the damage inflicted by the Nazis during the war on hundreds of thousands of Poles incarcerated in fascist concentration camp and used for forced labor was also discussed. The solution of this question is of great importance for the future of Polish-German relations.

H.-D. Genscher, the FRG foreign minister who accompanied von Weizsaecker, agreed with K. Skubiszewski, the Polish foreign minister, the question of the establishgment of a tripartite working group (FRG, GDR, and Polish Republic) to draft a peace treaty between the Polish and German sides. Poland has submitted its draft treaty entitled "Treaty Between Poland and a United Germany on the Basic Guidelines for Mutual Relations."

Weizsaecker's visit to Poland, it is hoped here, will remove the Poles' fears about the future unification of Germany and improve relations between the German and Polish peoples.

International Bering Sea Fishing Forum Reported

OW0505011690 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 21 Apr 90

[From the "Soviet Far East News" program]

[Excerpts] First, here is a report from Khabarovsk:

Listeners, an international symposium was held in Khabarovsk this month, and various problems on fishing in the Bering Sea were discussed at the symposium. Present at the symposium were scholars and fisheries personnel from the Soviet Union, Canada, the United States, China, Poland, the ROK, and Japan. A topic of heated discussion at the symposium concerns the situation of Alaskan pollacks, the major resource in the Bering Sea. As was pointed out at the symposium, fishing boats of ten nations currently are engaged in catching Alaskan pollacks in the Bering Sea, and the total annual fishing catch amounts to more than 1.5 million tons.

Meanwhile, surveys conducted by Soviet and American scholars clearly indicate that Alaskan pollacks caught in the waters of the Bering Sea belong to both Soviet and U.S. fishery resources. The breeding of Alaskan pollacks takes place in American waters near Bogoslof Island. However, the pollacks spend both summer and autumn in Soviet waters. The waters of the Bering Sea serve as the route for their migration during their spawning season. Because no limit has been set on offshore fishing—that is, fishing in the open seas—Alaskan pollacks have been decreasing rapidly.

According to scholars' views, there currently is no effective international law to control fishing within the 200-mile economic water zones of both the Soviet Union and the United States. This has become a cause for apprehension. Concerning this problem, Oleg Muratov, candidate for doctor of economics and deputy director of the Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Research Institute, states as follows:

[Begin Muratov recording in Russian fading into Japanese translation by announcer] The first academic symposium on this issue was held at Sitka City in Alaska two years ago. At that time, no basic problems concerning Alaskan pollack resources were brought up at the symposium, and the annual catch reached about 1.3 to 1.4 million tons. The catch gradually increased and has now reached over 1.5 million tons. Today, this problem concerning Alaskan pollack resources has become a serious unparalleled issue. I feel that it has become a serious problem that has far exceeded the framework of the bilateral treaty signed between the Soviet Union and United States. I believe that the time has now come for setting up an international committee to control Alaskan pollack fishing in the Bering Sea. Reckless fishing may cause extremely large changes to the whole ecological structure of the waters in the Bering Sea. This is because Alaskan pollacks are one of the major kinds of fish in the Bering Sea.

This is what Mr. Muratov has stated.

When these facts are taken into consideration, we should note that a purely biological issue is closely connected with political problems. In this regard, such a symposium is somewhat different in nature from common academic symposiums. [passage omitted]

Mr. (William Aron), director of Alaska's Fish Resources Research Institute, states as follows:

In many points, participants at the symposium have made different observations of the situation. However, they reached a consensus that urgent measures must be taken to protect the most adequate (?population) of the fish in the Bering Sea, which is one of the outstanding fishing zones in the world. Concerning this problem, I feel that international cooperation among ichthyologists will play an important role. To settle the problem through joint efforts, participants in the current symposium have reached an accord on exchanging information and promoting other effective cooperation.

This is what Mr. (Aron) has stated.

On the last day of the international symposium held in Khabarovsk, a Radio Moscow reporter met Professor Tadashi Sasaki, leader of the Japanese delegation and chief of the Northern Sea Resources Department [NSRD] under the Oceanic Fisheries Research Institute [OFRI] of the Fisheries Agency, and asked him many questions on the symposium. Mr. Sasaki states as follows:

[Begin Sasaki recording]

I am Tadashi Sasaki of the OFRI under the Fisheries Agency. At the institute, my position is chief of the NSRD. My purpose in coming to Khabarovsk is to attend the symposium sponsored by the Soviet side as leader of the Japanese delegation. [passage omitted]

All the nations concerned have attended the current symposium. Many papers on various analyses made from different standpoints on the Bering Sea's precious resources of Alaska pollacks have been submitted to the symposium, and fruitful discussions were held. In this sense, I think we can highly appraise the symposium.

Last, I feel that such a symposium will contribute to the development of relations between Japan and the Soviet Union. [passage omitted] [end recording]

This is what Mr. Sasaki has stated.

Murmansk Convoy Veterans Tour Battlefield

LD0905092590 Moscow TASS in English 0911 GMT 9 May 90

[By TASS correspondent Vasiliy Belousov]

[Text] Murmansk May 9 TASS--Participating in allied convoys who arrived in Murmansk at the invitation of the Soviet War Veterans' Committee to take part in the festivities on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the V-Day, visited places of their military glory today.

Along with Soviet war veterans, they went to the valley of valor where there had been fierce battles on the land stretch of the northern front and sailed to the places in the Barents Sea where their ships plied nearly 50 years ago.

During the Second World War, Britain, the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand shipped military hardware and other cargoes to the Soviet Union to help fight Nazi invaders.

But convoy participants had a poor idea under what conditions Soviet troops rebuffed the Nazis' attack on the grim land of the polar region.

"I knew that our shipments helped raise the Red Army's might," said Clinton Barr, a U.S. war veteran. "But I had not the slightest idea under what conditions our allied ground forces fought the Nazis. Now, after visiting the battlefields, I have understood how difficult it was for them. I'm proud that I helped them to withstand."

Convoy participants will today continue the sight-seeing tour of Murmansk. Many will visit Murmansk families.

World Gas Market Prospects Considered

PM0405135790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 May 90 Morning Edition p 4

[E. Guseynov article under the rubric "World Market: Trends and Forecasts": "Gas: Past, Present, Future"]

[Text] "This is the first project of its kind. This is the first time that Western firms have become involved in the Soviet oil and gas industry in this way." It was in those rapturous tones that a representative of Norsk Hydro responded to the agreement on the joint exploitation by Western firms and Soviet organizations of the Shtokmanovskiy gas field, which is in the Soviet sector of the Barents Sea.

Gas is undoubtedly the number one fuel of the immediate future. At present it accounts for 20 percent of the world's energy consumption. Environmentally speaking, it is the cleanest kind of fuel and one of the best in terms of thermal capacity. Gas is found together with oil not only underground but also in the world markets. The fact is that gas prices, as a rule, are indexed to oil prices. Thus in the seventies and eighties gas experienced all the vagaries of the changes in prices for energy sources. From 1972, the last year before the well-known "oil shock" of the seventies, through 1985, when oil prices fell sharply, the cost price of gas rose on average almost ninefold, consistently following the rise in oil prices. Then, from 1986, gas became cheaper—again along with oil. The latest price movement occurred last year: Oil rose slightly in price and gas rose by 20 percent along with it. Now, after the sharp fall in oil prices in April, gas should also become cheaper.

Of the raw material commodities in circulation in the market today, gas is among those with the best prospects. And this will clearly remain so for the next few decades. The USSR occupies a significant place among exporters: At the end of the eighties we supplied around 240 million cubic meters of gas to West and East Europe alone. From 1970 through the end of the eighties the volume of world gas exports rose almost 250 percent—an unusual figure for raw materials. And this is despite the fact that, thanks to economy measures, gas consumption per unit of gross domestic product in the industrially developed countries fell in 1977-1987 alone by 22 percent compared with the early seventies.

The favorable prospects encourage people to look for and extract gas all over the place, including in the difficult conditions of the open sea or the maritime shelf. In the USSR, for example, 24 of the most promising new industrial gas fields have been discovered in Eastern Siberia or on the edge of the Arctic ice field. It takes vast resources to operate such fields. The cost of assimilating the huge Shtokmanovskiy gas field alone, which is in the sea 600 km north of the Kola Peninsula, is $5 billion. Clearly, a significant proportion of this sum is now being invested by Western firms.

One characteristic of the world gas trade is the absence of uniform prices or a single market. At present there are three main centers where gas prices are determined and a large proportion of gas is sold: the United States, West Europe, and Southeast Asia. Price variations can be very considerable. For example, the cost price of 1,000 cubic meters in the U.S. market is currently $60, in West Europe $70, and in Japan $114 (this country receives liquefied gas, which is more expensive).

Another characteristic of this trade is supplies under long-term programs. Such as the recently concluded contract for the supply of U.S. gas from Alaska to South Korea to run for 25 years from 1997. The supplies are valued at $80 billion. Then there is the recently adopted 20-year program for the supply of liquefied gas from Indonesia to Taiwan—1.5 million tonnes a year.

A characteristic feature of the modern gas industry is the growth in regional systems for the extraction, transportation, and consumption of gas. One such system is being set up in Southeast Asia. The development of this regional market is based on a desire to become as self-sufficient as possible in locally produced energy sources. Previously the only major gas consumer here was Japan. Now there is a a whole group of new industrial countries based partly on the local raw material base—the gas fields and liquefied gas plants of Indonesia. Indonesia currently produces 22.8 million tonnes of liquefied gas a year, of which 16 million tonnes go to Japan, 2.1 million tonnes to South Korea, and 1.5 million tonnes to Taiwan. By the end of the nineties these supplies could increase by 5 million tonnes. If you add the planned import into this region of liquefied gas from Alaska (2 million tonnes a year) and from the Persian Gulf, you can see what a huge and long-term liquefied gas market is developing in the region.

Another interesting regional market is taking shape in the Persian Gulf and North Africa zone. It is based on a desire to make rational use of gas previously burned off or simply not used at all so as to supply the Arab countries of the region with energy. This applies primarily to resources in Algeria, which produces about 18 billion cubic meters of surplus gas a year, and Qatar, which has the world's largest gas deposits. In addition, it is planned to supply liquefied gas to countries in Asia and the Pacific.

Iran has also seriously tackled the rational use of gas. Previously 70 percent of gas produced here was either burned off or pumped back into the ground. (For comparison I would point out that in the USSR, Western Siberia alone burns off 12 billion cubic meters of casing-head gas a year). Henceforth everything possible will be done to increase gas exports. The rational use of gas will enable Iran to release up to 7,000 barrels of oil a day for export.

Thus the production of and trade in gas will grow in the next few years. At the same time this sector will consume a large amount of pipes and and equipment for gas pipelines, liquefied gas production plants, and specialized gas tankers. There are great prospects ahead for gas-producing firms and enterprises.

Underdevelopment Problems Aired at UN Session

PM0405145190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
4 May 90 First Edition p 6

[Vladimir Tyurkin "Viewpoint": "Words Are No Longer Enough"]

[Text] Like any other social defect, poverty can be neglected until it reaches the danger level—whether it is a case of individuals or, as in this case, the entire Third World. In my view, this is above all the thought prompted by the results of the UN General Assembly special session on international economic cooperation that has just closed in New York.

The dramatic nature of the session is indicated by just the fact that it dragged on for several extra days. The UN complex on New York's East River and all the other headquarters of world diplomacy could probably be wallpapered many times over with the previous resolutions and declarations in favor of a new international economic order. Underdevelopment has never been ignored, but the situation has gotten far worse.

As if specially for the session the world's oldest president F. Houphouet-Boigny, the head of the African state of Ivory Coast, which was long regarded as a showcase for the Western model of development in Africa, delivered a whole treatise on this subject: "We are simply being robbed. We are paid far less for our resources than they are really worth. How is it possible to talk about a new economic order founded on justice?"

The teleprinter brought news from Madagascar—half the population there lives below the "poverty line." By the end of the century in the countries of Western Asia the per capita gross domestic product will be lower than it was in 1985. The number of people below the poverty line in Latin America will have increased by the year 2000.

There was no lack of appeals for the economy to be revived in developing countries this time either. Although not everyone displayed a readiness to throw their money about, there were encouraging aspects. People tried to examine the crisis in a new way—not in isolation but in the context of the general global problems of the day—and to set about solving it by means of a whole series of measures: not only financial and economic, moreover, but also political and social. The discussion turned for the first time to the social dimension of underdevelopment and, in the opinion of many people, that is the crux of the matter since there can be no genuine development unless the human factor is mobilized via various social mechanisms and incentives.

It was noted that this is precisely the direction in which the current wave of democratization in the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America is heading.

Another fruitful concept—the idea that one cannot approach the Third World with special yardsticks—is also gradually making headway. The planetary economy has long formed an integral whole, and the situation can only be rectified by considering common interests.

Egoistic attempts to protect one's own prosperity through a monstrous trade and financial system and an outmoded division of labor are futile. The way out of the deadlock seems to lie not in setting North against South, East against West, but in switching to the path of mutual advantage.

A new hint has appeared—won't the East "lure" Western credits away from the South. It was noted in this connection that this is a false alarm since such investments are not made at the expense of the Third World. Everyone will gain since the volume of trade may increase by $38-76 billion as a result of the integration of the USSR and East Europe into the world economic system.

The session's documents provide hope that important points of contact were found and that things will finally move on from noble intentions to their realization.

Review of Soviet Third World Ties Urged

90UF0078B Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Ye. Arefyeva, candidate of economic sciences: "Breaking Free of the Power of Stereotypes. What Kinds of Partners We Need in the 'Third World'"]

[Text] Today even people who are far removed from politics are thinking more and more frequently about the question: Do we need close ties with countries of the Third World, and if so, why?

There is no doubt that the foreign political area of perestroyka is our most successful one. But still each day it becomes clearer how contradictory the general geopolitical course with respect to the Third World is. One must say that public discussion of the geopolitical interests of the state have long been a part of the political culture of many countries of the world. But in our country they have been hidden behind the smoke screen of the "specifics" of various departments.

I shall be so bold as to say that the interests served by our actions in the Third World contradict one another. This leads to a situation where the foreign economic departments base their strategy on military and foreign political tasks while the others base theirs on economic tasks. Yet each of these areas is problematical.

For example, what should the military-strategic and political considerations be today in order to justify the immense expenditures on military and economic aid? Are problems of national security not now concentrated in our own country? It is difficult to imagine a real foreign threat that is greater than the threat to political and economic stability caused by our domestic situation.

A good deal has already been said about the fact that the foreign military threat has been exaggerated over the decades. Now it seems that we are finally coming to an understanding of the real function of the postulate about the military threat—its role as domestic propaganda. We are also beginning to understand that this is largely a product of the Stalinist system in its desire to subordinate the forces and thoughts of the individual to the tasks of the totalitarian society. But still we are continuing to spend our already scanty resources on maintaining an immense army and even, moreover, spreading this outdated ideology to the Third World. Regardless of how bitter it may sound we cannot get away from the fact that maintaining military facilities and delivering weapons by no means reduces the military tension in the Third World, and in many countries it replaces the food and other economic support that are so needed.

Does all this correspond to our interests? Perhaps we need foreign military bases and guarantees of the use of straits and other transportation arteries? But then are we taking into account the fact that our military presence in the Third World inevitably leads to counter steps by other states and nullifies the successful political actions with respect to developed countries. The clearest example of the contradictoriness in our actions is the painstaking work to lower the arms level in the negotiations with the United States and in parallel the rendering of mass military assistance to the neighbor of the United States—Cuba (and until 1989, Nicaragua as well). There is no doubt that the beginning of the reduction of our presence in Mongolia and the port of Cam Ranh in Vietnam was a step forward. But military ties with Arab countries and African states are shadows of our confrontational past. It would be hard to find a geopolitical justification for the military deliveries to Angola, Mozambique, and Ethiopia.

As soon as we ask these questions our real confusion of priorities begins. Strange as it may be, until recently the military deliveries were justified not so much by the need to maintain military bases or other strategic arguments as by... economic considerations: They paid us and paid us well for these arms. But now more and more frequently the payments are being delayed, thus increasing indebtedness (mainly the hopeless part of it) and the political priority comes to the fore. It turns out that it is impossible to undermine the position of one or another leader of a distant country.

But the views of the leader and our understanding of social progress in his state coincide far from completely. So let us be honest and say that this is an old, ideological priority and it is not linked to the principles of friendship and benevolence, and whether we like it or not we are mixing these concepts up. It would be more honest to admit that in the old days we counted on military aid as an ideological instrument which would keep one country or another in the camp of our allies. That is, we are again coming up against the contradictory nature of the course whereby we sacrifice new geopolitical interests for the sake of old ideological ones, and at the same time we hamper the satisfaction of our own economic needs. In other words, while rejecting our false ideological goals within the country, we still cannot get rid of them in our relations with the Third World, especially Latin America.

And I can hear the typical objection: We are only maintaining parity with the United States; look at their military bases and military aid. But there has not been any point in looking at the United States for a long time, and not just because we cannot afford it. Life itself has confirmed the wisdom of the path selected by our present leaders of unilateral steps in the military area, which seemed risky at first. They are responding in kind, even if not immediately. Even in the Third World the developed countries are prepared to support our refusal to participate in the tug-of-war—the United States itself is considering the possibility of reducing its military presence in Asia (it is important that this pertains not only to Turkey and South Korea but also Japan).

So should we get out of the Third World and abandon our ties with it as being burdensome and useless? Not at all. It is geopolitics in the unity of all motives that forces us to pay the greatest possible amount of attention to our relations with developing countries. For example, all the problems we must solve today in order to create favorable conditions for perestroyka are concentrated in the Third World today. These include military detente, ecology, and economizing on resources. Therefore the main thing for us in the current stage is to escape from the power of stereotypes and take a fresh look at the possibilities and problems of the Third World and select a direction of attack. I am convinced that this will be a purely economic direction because today not only national but many global problems must be resolved here.

Release from stereotypes will require clarity. Economic ties with the Third World will have to be directed particularly toward solving economic problems. And this will change the forms of cooperation, the set of partners, and the results. In brief, the situation will conform more to our needs.

Let us just take aid to the Third World. This includes communications which are inevitably politicized so let us determine the political goals that justify expenditures on aid in the eyes of our compatriots. It is no longer a secret to anyone that our aid is far from contributing to strengthening the international authority of the Soviet Union, if only because of the limited volumes (as compared to the shortages in the countries that receive it) and the nature of the model which reproduces our difficulties abroad. We have turned out to be incapable of bring that same Cuba onto the road of self-supported growth. Possibly, instead of a closed economic regime oriented toward non-market ties with the CEMA countries, we should create an export economy there, first based on tropical farming and then diversified. We repeated the same mistake in Mongolia and its economy is exceptionally dependent and vulnerable. And it is the recipient of the largest amount of our aid. In addition to these there are also the African countries with a socialist orientation, a group that is constantly changing, and this is an eloquent assessment of our ideological efforts in places where economic aid is what is needed. Having driven the economy into an impasse, they change their course and switch to the basis of an open market economy and moving in the direction of the West, in a number of cases still retaining their socialist phraseology.

All of this certainly does not mean that aid should be eliminated from our plans altogether. Since it is politically necessary, in the future we shall have to share with other countries the burden of responsibility for overcoming poverty and backwardness on earth. It is also necessary from the standpoint of providing for military and political stability in the world since the poorest countries can produce the most unpredictable outbursts. Therefore the task is to determine, in light of the new thinking, those of our geopolitical interests which should be buttressed by granting resources under privileged conditions.

At the present time our underestimation of economic interests is causing us more and more trouble. Now that we are beginning to understand what we want from the world economy, it would be natural to assign our main priorities to economic needs and look for allies on the basis of long-term economic tasks.

I have always been surprised by the naivete of Western researchers who have tried to explain Soviet military aid granted to some African leader by referring to the mineral resources in the country. The sad truth is that neither military nor even economic cooperation can be oriented toward our import needs, not to mention our need for raw materials. Without even mentioning the prospects for stimulating Soviet industry with the help of export deliveries, when selecting partner countries and the scale of cooperation, we did not even take into account such a simple thing as the possibility of satisfying the needs for imported raw material (not considering the situations with sources of raw material that we do not produce at all).

And this is understandable: For decades we were proud of our economic independence, by which we meant our constant readiness for a military siege. The entire world consisted everywhere of an interweaving of the needs and capabilities of various countries and we were trying to provide ourselves with everything we needed, even if it were at the price of high domestic outlays and an ineffective investment structure. The policy (more precisely, ideology) in ties with developing countries was something sacred, lofty, and primary, and the economy was merely its servant.

Now we cannot get along without participation in international division of labor and the tasks of opening up the economy cannot be carried out for the indefinite future by selecting goods and forms of relations under promises of credit given during high-level visits. There is an immense potential for us in our ties with countries of the Third World and we must make a realistic assessment of it.

The most developed countries of Asia and Latin America (the so-called new industrial countries) could become exceptionally advantageous partners and also Turkey, India, and the countries of Western Africa. These are sources of modern consumer goods and various kinds of investment goods, technology, and investment capital and they are also potential buyers of our exports.

A large step in the direction of economic ties with them has already been taken. It includes negotiations with the president of Brazil, N.I. Ryzhkov's recent trip to Singapore and Thailand, the decision to open a new trade representation in South Korea and a South Korean one here, and both with consular departments. In these events I should also like to include M.S. Gorbachev's visit to China in 1989 and the efforts to develop economic ties with this state.

At the same time these very events have shown that ideological problems are hanging like a dead weight on the new geopolitics, regardless of how drawn they may be to economics. If in relations with China there is greater realism which has made it possible to cast off military-political dogmas (reduce the number of troops along the border and in Mongolia, make progress in regulating the Cambodian problem) and if the reduction of our military presence in Vietnam will help the development of economic ties with Asian countries and the United States, the circumstances with respect to North Korea remain an impediment to ties with South Korea, and in the Arab region military deliveries continue to play a role that is more destabilizing than anything else (including for bilateral economic ties). In the other case, with India, where military deliveries perhaps do help to balance relations with Pakistan and China, the ideologized course toward maintaining "special relations" between the USSR and India has long failed to correspond to the economic capabilities of the two countries and also lacks any geopolitical clarity. And the main result of the confusion of old and new military, ideological, and economic priorities is that funds are diverted to measures that are essentially confrontational and are not effective from any standpoint.

Stimulation of normal, natural economic ties should be at the center of today's geopolitics in the Third World. They will lay a basis for stability for the entire geopolitical situation and will produce new dividends both in relations with developed countries and in economic support for this difficult stage in the restructuring of the Soviet economy.

United States & Canada

Soviet, U.S. Specialists Discuss Summit

LD0805173190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Talks have begun in Washington between specialists of the United States and USSR on putting the finishing touches to protocol and technical aspects of the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. summit planned for 30 May-3 June.

As White House Press Secretary Fitzwater has reported, the group of Soviet specialists comprising 12 persons has already met with representatives of the State Department and the National Security Council staff. The responsibility of these people includes everything related to the visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and his meetings with President George Bush, from the transportation of the presidents and the maintenance of constant communication between them, to the organization of their receptions, meetings, and speeches and the defining of the system of protection. As yet, it has not been officially announced whether the summit talks will be held entirely in Washington or whether the presidents will meet outside the U.S. capital.

Bessmertnykh Receives U.S. Amity Committee Head

LD0405184390 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS—First Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh today received executive vice-president of the American Committee for American-Soviet Relations Fred Warner Neal.

They discussed prospects of Soviet-American relations, factors influencing them and the role of socio-political forces in the constructive evolution of these relations.

Cheney Comments on Level of Threat Noted

90UM0536A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 27 Apr 90 p 3

[TASS report: "In Favor of a Review of Military Policy"]

[Text] San Francisco, 26 Apr (TASS). The radical changes in the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe are creating conditions in which a review of American military policy will become possible, U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney stated. Speaking in the Council on International Affairs in Los Angeles, he noted that: "The threat of an unexpected attack in the central part of Europe is now at the lowest level in the last 40 years".

Prunskiene's Visit to U.S. Evaluated

Meeting With Bush Assessed

LD0605154390 Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] Last Thursday's meeting between President George Bush of the United States and the Lithuanian prime minster, Mrs. Kazimiera Prunskiene, in the White House has given reason to say that the United States Administration will change its position on the threshold of the Soviet-American summit. Commentary is by Mikhail Mayorov, and this is what he writes.

It looks as if the White House has long solved the dilemma that events in Lithuania have set for it. Nothing indicates that the adminstration will adopt any economic sanction against the USSR. Mr. Bush is not inclined to dramatize the Moscow-Vilnius confrontation following the decision passed by Lithuania's parliament to secede from the USSR, although it has been hearing various views, extremist ones included. We can judge what pressure is being exerted on Mr. Bush at least by the resolution adopted by the U.S. Senate on Thursday. The document urges the administration not to sign a trade accord with Moscow as long as, the resolution authors say, the economic blockade of Lithuania continues.

One can see again that among the American senators and congressmen there are those who would like to make the granting of the most-favored-nation status in trade with the USSR an object of blackmail. Apparently, there are such people among Mr. Bush's closest aides. The essence of their collective and scattered efforts is, if not to disrupt the Soviet-American summit scheduled for late May-early June in Washington, at least to emasculate it as much as possible. In the long run the matter is not merely in signing a document or not signing it; it's the retention of the cold war spirit, if not in the spheres of the Soviet-American ties at least in trade, that is at issue, and the prejudices of the past are still strong in trade.

Now, who stands to gain from the situation that is emerging? To some extent this question is answered by Mr. Bush's decision last week to recommend Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Controls on Exports to Socialist Countries] to curtail a list of technologies banned for export to the USSR and East European countries. The Coordinating Committee for Control over Exports has applied discriminatory measures that have done enormous damage to East-West trade.

Lithuania's Envoy Views Visit

LD0605140290 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 5 May 90

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Stasys Lozoraitis [Lithuanian charge d'affaires in Washington and at the Holy See] thinks that Lithuania's government leader will be received in London with certain reservations, as well, so long as there exists no formal, international recognition of Lithuania.

According to the opinion of Lithuania's Washington representative, "all existing possibilities must be exploited and attempts must be made to personally persuade state leaders that the West must show more tangible assistance to Lithuania than has been shown to date. [passage omitted]

Stasys Lozoraitis made some brief comments, stating that Lithuania maintains its Washington legation and that currently it is more actively engaged in serving its country's interests than has been the case to date. [passage omitted]

Thus, in the opinion of Stasys Lozoraitis the proposal by President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl already is tantamount to a promise of international guarantees. This matter should become more apparent during the London meeting. It seems to me, remarked Stasys Lozoraitis, that it is now the Kremlin's turn to take a step, and I hope this step will be peaceful and acceptable to Lithuania. Stasys Lozoraitis stressed the need to sit down at a common table and start negotiations, even if at a slow pace. Time is fleeting, and various problems are becoming complicated and can be resolved only through discussions. He stated that he had no doubt that the Mitterand-Kohl proposal, which is favorable to us, indicates their interest in Lithuania's future and also in a certain sense that they will be guarantors of our discussions with Moscow and will interject when they think such an interjection is necessary and useful. [passage omitted on purpose of Vilnius Radio's telephone call to Washington to get a appraisal of the Lithuanian premier's visit]

It was indicated that Kazimiera Prunskiene's visit once again has reminded the U.S. politicians and press that the question of Lithuanian independence is only part of a greater problem, namely that of the Soviet Union's future. Both the Lithuanian premier and Lithuania's Washington representative consider the assumption that Lithuania is the greatest danger faced by Gorbachev to be erroneous.

If the Western nations recognized Lithuania, Moscow could finally arrive at a decision regarding the Baltic states' secession from the Soviet Union. Concurrently, an opinion shared by Western experts notes that the greatest danger threatening Gorbachev is the Soviet Union's uncommonly difficult economic situation.

Stasys Lozoraitis stressed that the various Washington meetings by Kazimiera Prunskiene have indicated once more the extent of the important work accomplished by U.S. Lithuanians, not only among political figures, but also among the press corps. Currently, Lithuania already has become familiar and sympathy toward it is becoming increasingly strong.

During the course of meetings in Washington, the subject of humanitarian assistance to Lithuania was discussed. This initiative commenced in the United States, but now is spreading everywhere, including to Western Europe. [passage omitted]

I think, said Stasys Lozoraitis, that the visit was truly positive and necessary. Such visits by Lithuanian politicians also have value in the fact that Americans are able to observe firsthand that we are not aggressive and that we do not seek to act against our neighbors, including the Kremlin, and that we wish to advance peacefully along the path to independence.

China

Sino-Soviet Prospects Termed 'Propitious'

90UF0130A Moscow TRUD in Russian 29 Apr 90 p 3

[Rudolf Puchkov comment under the rubric "Our Commentary": "Atmosphere of Good-Neighborliness"]

[Text] Last week all the newspapers and radio and television companies of any significance in various countries devoted attention to one extent or another to the first visit to the Soviet Union in 26 years by a head of government of the PRC.

It was observed that the visit took place in an atmosphere of good-neighborliness and reciprocal wishes for continuation of the development of relations between the two countries. Highly significant, for example, was the headline on the comment in the French newspaper LES ECHOS: "Sino-Soviet Realism." "The Chinese premier's visit to Moscow," this newspaper writes, "and the specific results that were achieved during the visit testify as clearly as possible to a future of normalization of Sino-Soviet relations completely freed from any ideological coloration. Having clearly defined the framework of the meeting, both China and the USSR may be credited equally with its success."

Truly, an in-depth exchange of opinions on the most diverse issues—from aspects of mutual cooperation through an assessment of key international problems—took place between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the PRC during the visit. Satisfaction was expressed at the dynamic development of the two sides' relations and cooperation in the political, economic, commercial, scientific and technological, and other spheres.

The parties confirmed that they support a further strengthening of the relations of friendship and good-neighborliness between the USSR and the PRC based on the generally recognized principles of international intercourse.

A whole number of Soviet-Chinese documents was signed at the conclusion of the visit. They include a long-term program for the development of economic and scientific and technological cooperation and an agreement on the guiding principles for a mutual reduction in armed forces and confidence building in the military sphere in the Soviet-Chinese border area. All these documents will undoubtedly broaden the treaty-legal base of relations between the two countries and will promote the more active development of their cooperation.

Of course, not all questions have been conclusively resolved in relations between our two countries, and evaluations do not fully coincide on all international problems. The Chinese press is listing, for example, a number of obstacles which are impeding the development of economic cooperation. It complains primarily about the defects in the structure of commercial relations, which have basically remained unchanged since the end of the 1950's. Raw material and semi-manufactured commodities account for approximately 70 percent of the exchange.

The development of trade is being negatively influenced also by the fact that the two countries' currencies are nonconvertible. And this, one paper observes, "deprives them of mutual attraction." Finally, the lagging of the transportation systems is a most serious problem. Lengthy car idling and the piling up of goods are observed on both sides of the Soviet-Chinese border.

Such as yet unresolved problems in relations between the two countries show how much still can and must be done for the further development of our cooperation. But it is important—and the visit confirmed this—that the parties are operating in an atmosphere of the utmost and mutual benevolence. And, consequently, that the prospects of Soviet-Chinese cooperation are entirely propitious also.

USSR, PRC Science Academies Sign Agreement

LD0805222290 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1437 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow, 8 May (TASS)—At present, the USSR and China have broad prospects for deepening mutually beneficial contacts in the field of scientific cooperation. This is the view taken by Guriy Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He expressed this opinion at today's signing in Moscow of a plan for scientific cooperation between the USSR and PRC Academies of Science for 1991-1995. On the Chinese side, the document was signed by Zhou Guangzhao, president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The document provides for the expansion of direct ties between academic institutes in the USSR and the PRC, the development of diverse forms of cooperation, and interaction in new areas of science.

Guriy Marchuk noted during the talks that the beginning of perestroyka in the USSR coincided with the restoration of links with scientific organizations in China. Today, he said, we hope to fill the gap that formed in the period of tense relations between the two countries. The Soviet academician recalled that the first talks between delegations of the USSR and PRC Academies of Science were held in 1985, ending in 1986 with the signing of an agreement on scientific cooperation. At that time, it provided for the carrying out of joint work in the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry, computer technology, and earth sciences. Such links as the exchange of scientists; the carrying out of joint scientific work; mutual participation in national conferences, congresses, and symposiums; and the preparation of joint scientific information publications began to develop.

A very important event in the development and deepening of contacts between the two countries' academies of sciences occurred with the signing in Beijing in 1989 of an agreement on direct cooperation between their institutions, which provided a legal foundation for contact between academic institutes on the basis of direct relations.

In this connection, Guriy Marchuk expressed the idea of a transition to a deeper level of cooperation in science: He proposed that the scientists themselves should select the priority areas for mutually beneficial cooperation and carry out work on a competitive basis. The Soviet scientist devoted particular attention to the training of young cadres and called for the extension of the exchange of the two countries' specialists.

During their stay in the Soviet Union, the delegation of Chinese scientists led by Zhou Guangzhao will visit a number of institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences and will become acquainted with their work.

Coking Equipment Supplied to PRC Steelworks

OW0805064490 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 25 Apr 90

[Text] A machinery manufacturing plant in (Kraveyansk) has won the reputation of being a reliable partner in China. On 24 April the plant, which manufactures major equipment for coke production, began loading its first shipment of equipment to China's Anshan Iron and Steel Complex.

Plant director (Rugev) said to TASS reporters: The Sino-Soviet summit meeting held six months ago has promoted our relations with China. During the meeting, the two sides signed agreements on economic and technological cooperation with respect to construction and renovation of factory facilities. Soon afterwards, we supplied the Shanghai Coke Plant with coking equipment worth R1 million. The contracts signed between us and the Anshan Steel Works involve even larger amounts of money, and the contracts will be fulfilled by the end of the year.

Beijing's May Day Celebration Reported

90UF0135A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 2 May 90 p 3

[TASS May Day report: "Workers of the World Celebrate Their Holiday"]

[Excerpt] Beijing—Nature decided to indulge, as it were, the residents of the Chinese capital: following yesterday's downpour, the skies over Beijing, to the joy of the townspeople, cleared up. The wind, having in the early morning dispelled the last clouds, is causing numerous red flags to flutter—over government and public buildings and in Tienanmen Square, in the middle of which, opposite the Gate of Heavenly Peace, towers a huge portrait of the revolutionary and democrat Sun Yat-sen—the leader of the Shanghai revolution of 1911 and father of the Chinese Republic, who is revered both in the PRC and on Kuomintang Taiwan. The portraits of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin, which were traditional for decades, have not as of last year been put up in Tienanmen. A special decision was adopted in this connection.

"Relying Wholeheartedly and With All Our Thoughts on the Working Class"—the editorial of today's RENMIN RIBAO appeals in big red characters. Since the last May Day, it says, "our great socialist fatherland and heroic people of all nationalities have withstood a stern test. The motherland has turned crisis into calm."

The most important task now is the organization of due cooperation between the different strata of society, declared Li Ruihuan, member Standing Committee of the CPC Central Committee Politburo. Addressing people working in the mass media, he called on them "to give the nation a clear ideological line and unite all possible forces to cope with the difficulties and move economic building forward." [passage omitted]

Northeast Asia

Deputy Foreign Minister Views Ties With Japan

OW0605060090 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Radio Moscow reporter Andrey Gydorov's interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy on 26 April, after his return from Japan; place not given]

[Excerpts] First, reporter Gydorov asked Deputy Foreign Minister Petrovskiy the following question: In Japan, you attended the UN disarmament conference on the main topic, the trend of science and technology and its impact on international peace and security. At the conference, held in Sendai city, a very large portion of your remarks concern the situation in the Asian-Pacific region. What do you think should be done to put the process of defusing tension in this region on the right track, as in Europe?

[Begin Petrovskiy recording in Russian fading into Japanese translation by announcer] I think that conditions have become ideal for promoting realistic dialogue in Asia to achieve practical results. That is to say, the conditions are favorable for settling various problems on practical cooperation in political, economic, and other fields through the process of dialogue between two nations. I also feel that conditions have also been created to promote regional dialogue throughout the entire Asian region along with bilateral dialogue. [passage omitted]

First of all, perhaps it will be necessary to hold talks to promote trust-building measures while taking Asia's special features under the current situation into consideration. In other words, Asia's geographical and geopolitical features should be taken into consideration. Talks should start with measures to build trust at sea. Then, consultations can be held on such issues as nonproliferation of genocidal weapons and disarmament.

Deputy Foreign Minister Petrovskiy, during your visit to Japan, you held talks with many Japanese state activists and top leaders of the Foreign Ministry, did you not? At these talks, the discussion was centered on your proposal for establishing environmental preservation zones in Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands in joint cooperation with Japanese experts. Would you explain in detail your proposal and also Japan's reaction to your proposal?

[Begin Petrovskiy recording in Russian fading into Japanese translation by announcer] Prior to the Sendai conference and in response to an IZVESTIYA reporter's question, Foreign Minister Shevardnadze made a proposal to open up the Kuril Islands and Sakhalin to promote ecological cooperation with Japan. In further explaining the foreign minister's proposal, I conveyed to the Japanese side our concrete ideas about the proposal. In particular, I feel that Soviet and Japanese scholars are capable of carrying out botanical and zoological research in this area and working out measures for preservation. [passage omitted]

Naturally, we are ready to study any other proposals by the Japanese side. At any rate, I am satisfied with the promise made by the Japanese side to study cautiously our proposals. I hope that they will give reply concretely to our proposal after their studies.

Deputy Foreign Minister Petrovskiy, here is the next question: What do you think of the prospects for future Soviet-Japanese relations? What is the current impediment to Soviet-Japanese relations? What will contribute to promoting Soviet-Japanese relations?

[Begin Petrovskiy recording in Russian fading into Japanese translation by announcer] I have visited Japan on several occasions, and the latest visit was the fourth one during the past ten years. Now, I have the impression that, as a result of what is happening in the world and in the Soviet Union, the prospects for Soviet-Japanese relations are becoming bright. It is most desirable for the dialogue between the Soviet Union and Japan to continue. In holding practical talks now, we have discussed all topics without any reservation during our dialogue. In fact, there are no impediments between us. What is most important now is that we should shift from dialogue to practice. [passage omitted]

In this connection, it is necessary to begin dialogues that are devoid of prejudice or preconception but accompanied with concrete actions. We have repeatedly stressed our readiness to hold such dialogues and willingness to hold dialogue to achieve fruitful results.

Well, then, what is the opinion of the Japanese side? In replying to this question, Deputy Foreign Minister

Petrovskiy answered as follows: The Japanese side has brought up several issues. For example, there is the northern territorial issue. We feel that there is a problem. However, we do not think of it as a so-called territorial issue but as an issue connected with the conclusion of a peace treaty. Within the framework of discussing problems related to the peace treaty, we must study various problems, including the decision of borders. We must also study other aspects such as [words indistinct].

Deputy Foreign Minister Petrovskiy, you just mentioned that it was your fourth visit to Japan. You must have your own ideas about Japan and the Japanese. Would you explain your views, please?

[Begin Petrovskiy recording in Russian fading into Japanese translation by announcer] My first impression about Japan came from books I have read. In my childhood, I read a long novel by Gonzolov entitled: "Frigate Boat." I was quite satisfied with this novel. In it, Gonzolov described his impressions during his visit to Japan, appraising the endless and refined capabilities of the Japanese in introducing something new to create something unique.

Every time I visit Japan, I find that Gonzolov's appraisal from more than a hundred years ago is still correct. I am convinced more than ever that Japan has come to enjoy an increasingly greater capability and role in contributing to the development of world civilization.

USSR, Japan Military Agreement Discussed

OW0505193790 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 19 Apr 90

[From the "Situation in Asia" program]

[Text] According to a report by TOKYO SHIMBUN, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Japan Defense Agency, and other relevant ministries of Japan have begun a specific study on the possibility of reaching an agreement with the Soviet Union on establishing mutual trust in the military sphere. (Libiejev), a commentator of this station, writes the following:

I must admit that this report somehow surprised me, because, just a few days ago, when answering questions at the Japanese Diet about the Japan Defense Agency's non-constructive policy in the military sphere, especially regarding an allegation of a military threat by the Soviet Union, a spokesman of the military department said such a threat did exist. ASAHI SHIMBUN pointed out that activists in Japan's military sphere not only did not say what measures they planned to take to accomodate the changing global military and political situation, but also did not say anything about their guiding principles for the future. As things have shown, they do have such guiding principles. As reported by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, the guiding principles set by Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japan Defense Agency, who play a decisive role in formulating Japan's military policy, are based on the fact that the Soviet Union, with its peace offensive, has taken the initiative in relaxing tension. The moves by the Soviet Union have put the ball in Tokyo's court.

I also wish to point out that Japan's domestic public opinion is another important factor. Opposition parties and some influential newspapers in Japan have recently strongly criticized the Japanese Government's policy of not answering disarmament with disarmament.

As for the Soviet Union, it is taking concrete steps to improve regional relations and to enhance peace, security, and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. The Soviet Union has continued to reduce its nuclear arms in this region. Following the Soviet-U.S. agreement on intermediate-range missile, the Soviet Union has begun to destroy 436 intermediate and intermediate-short range missiles on its Asian territory. Since 1984, the Soviet Union has unilaterally stopped expanding its land-based nuclear forces east of the Urals. Since 1986, it has stopped increasing the number of airplanes carrying nuclear arms in that area. I wish to remind you that the Soviet Union's decision to reduce its troops by 500,000 people involves 200,000 troops on its Asian territory, of which 120,000 are in the Far East. At the end of last year, the Soviet Union also started to reduce its military presence in Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay. The facts in the last few years are these. Judging from some indications, Tokyo has begun to attach importance to these facts.

Soviet, Japanese Economists Attend Moscow Seminar

LD0805204290 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS—Soviet and Japanese economists closed their two-day seminar here today, at which they discussed prospects for trade and economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries over the next ten years.

The Soviet Research Institute of Foreign Economic Ties and a research institute of the Japanese association for trade with the Soviet Union and East European countries prepared two reports for the seminar, in which they set forth objectives for and forms of such cooperation.

After the reports are published in Russian, Japanese, and English, they will be made available to governmental organisations, enterprises and firms of the two countries.

Director of the Soviet Institute Igor Faminskiy told TASS that the seminar was "fruitful and will be of practical use to both countries."

He said the two sides' approaches to bilateral trade issues "largely coincide, although there are some differences. Both sides emphasised the enormous potential for scientific and technical cooperation, which may have a decisive effect on the entire course of Soviet-Japanese economic relations."

Faminskiy said the main task of both sides now was to "speed up work in those areas, about which the sides' views coincide."

Japan's Defense, 'Myth' of Soviet Threat Viewed

OW0505003890 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 24 Apr 90

[By TASS commentator Biryukov]

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu pointed out at the Diet session held on 23 April that despite the positive trend of East-West detente, Japan would continue its own defense buildup. Prime Minister Kaifu stated at the House of Representatives Budget Committee session that even amid changes in the international situation, Japan must adhere to its exclusively defense-oriented concept. He also stated that the government would make an effort to attain a moderate defensive capability sufficient to counter a potential and limited act of aggression. Defense Agency [DA] Director General Ishika supported Prime Minister Kaifu by expounding on the theme of the so-called Soviet threat.

Nowadays, perhaps there are not so many people who continue to believe in the myth concerning the Soviet threat. In this connection, it is surprising that the Japanese official source would openly bring up the so-called threat. This naturally leads to the following question: Why is it that this bluffing concerning the Soviet threat should continue to exercise great influence in Japan while changes leading toward a favorable trend are taking place in the whole world and the Soviet Union is taking substantial measures to defuse tension and build mutual confidence in the Asian-Pacific region?

In view of the changes in the international situation, all the opposition parties demand that the original defense buildup program of the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] should be revised and the defense budget frozen. Despite these demands, the Japanese Government does not intend to comply with them but, on the contrary, is determined not to change the programs for modernizing and building up the SDF. This is demonstrated not only in the remarks made by both the prime minister and the DA director general but also in the defense buildup program covering a period beginning in 1991 and ending in 1995. The task of mapping out this program is now in progress. The next defense buildup program will request a budget of an astronomical figure of 23 trillion yen.

Meanwhile, Japan's defense capability is now already counted as one of the strongest in the world. The fact that this capability has been strengthened further has begun to arouse apprehension among Japan's neighboring nations, particularly those that have already experienced suffering caused by Japanese militarism.

Even a source at the U.S. Defense Department, which has maintained until only yesterday that Japan should strengthen its defense capability, is now displeased with the fact that Japan's defense capability has become increasingly strengthened. As if arranged not to contradict with each other, the U.S. Defense Department sources maintain that a limit should be set on Japan's military capability and that it should be prevented from becoming one of the strongest military powers in the world. Take a certain American general, for example. He maintains that U.S. forces should be allowed to stay in Japan only for the next 10 years, and that they should be stationed there to prevent Japan from rebuilding its military power. In other words, they should serve as a sort of bottle stopper.

We will not try to speculate what is actually behind such ideas concerning the U.S. military bases. However, what is important is that the nations and the peoples of the Asia-Pacific region are concerned about Japan's attempt at defense buildup. If the Japanese Government should fail to pay attention to this fact, we can at least say that it is acting with imprudence.

TASS Refutes YONHAP Report on Soviet Position

LD0905103790 Moscow TASS in English 1026 GMT 9 May 90

[By TASS political analyst Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] Moscow May 9 TASS—The South Korean YONHAP news agency circulated a report which says, referring to a high-ranking representative of the Seoul administration that the Soviet Union allegedly supported the unilateral admission of South Korea to the United Nations, radically changing its long-standing position.

The agency referred to a statement by a Soviet official allegedly made during a meeting between Soviet and South Korean diplomats in New York.

Indeed, there was such a meeting at the initiative of the South Korean side, during which the Soviet representative spelled out the Soviet position concerning South Korea's desire to join the United Nations.

This position is as follows: The Soviet Union has always favoured the United Nations' universality and its higher role in world affairs. However, Korea is a special case: It is a divided country.

Therefore, it is expedient to examine South Korea's membership in the U.N., taking into account the interests of the two Koreas and the North-South dialogue.

Therefore, before putting this question at the United Nations, the North and the South should come to agreement when and how they can join the United Nations.

The USSR believes that the two sides should display goodwill and political realism while looking for a compromise. The Soviet Union would welcome any solution of this question by Pyongyang and Seoul.

This is the USSR's clear-cut and consistent position. There are evidently some circles in Seoul which want to distort this position with YONHAP's assistance.

Hyundai's Plans in Primorskiy Kray Outlined

SK0505075790 Moscow International Service in Korean 0900 GMT 3 May 90

[From the "Highlights of Soviet Primorskiy Kray" program]

[Text] As we have already reported to our listeners, South Korea's Hyundai Company in Nakhodka has opened for business. Mr. Yi Kang-il heads this mission. While working in Primorskiy Kray, he came to have specific views on the prospects of cooperation, and signed a series of agreements. This hour we asked him to tell us about such agreements.

[Begin Yi recording] We, the Hyundai workers, came to this kray because we believed that there are many possibilities for cooperation with this coastal kray because it is located closest to the ROK geographically.

Another important purpose of Hyundai coming to this kray is to carry out work that would contribute to the Soviet economy by fully utilizing the enormous natural resources in the kray as the first stage in economic cooperation with the Soviet Union. This was done in connection with the establishment of a special economic zone in Nakhodka by the Soviet Government.

The coastal kray has abundant natural resources. In particular, most resources can be used by the ROK. Therefore, we are carrying out various jobs to help the economic development of the kray by utilizing technology, manpower, and experiences that the ROK has gained up to now. [end recording]

Regrettably, the people in Primorskiy Kray (?failed) to accumulate experience in utilizing their abundant resources. They cut down trees for export, and with foreign currency earned by doing this, they mostly imported consumer goods.

Such (?mutual) trade with Japanese businessmen, which continued for scores of years, failed to make the people in Primorskiy rich and to help industrial development and failed to benefit development of structures in the other country.

The Hyundai Company, in principle, put forward different proposals. A contract was drawn up to build a joint-venture complex to produce furniture by processing lumber and to sell the funiture to Soviet markets and to other countries. This complex will process 1 million cubic meters of lumber a year. The contract is valid for 30 years. This is not the only project which Mr. Yi Kang-il is going to push ahead with. He said the following:

[Begin Yi recording] We will not only import lumber but also will process it and manufacture goods in a step-by-step manner according to the work plan. At present, the project is in progress as planned. Accordingly, the full-scale work will begin within this year.

We are also pushing ahead with a project of developing a coal mine near (Parchisanspitch). Coal is one of the major resources not only for the coastal kray but also to the Soviet Union. We will develop coal and export a large quantity of coal to other nations, as well as to the ROK.

Next, we plan to cooperate with Soviet partners in the shipbuilding field. First, we are going to cooperate with them in the ship repair and building yard in Nakhodka in a joint-venture manner.

We are also pushing ahead with the work for shipbuilding in the (Slavianka) shipyard by offering our technological and manpower support. There, we will cooperate not only in repairing ships but also in building a new ship.

In addition, we plan to build a personal computer plant within the special economic zone. We will push ahead with this plan in a step-by-step manner from the phase of assembly work to the stage of producing components in the Soviet Union. In other words, all components required for computers will be produced in the Soviet Union within 5 years.

As the final project, we are planning to build a soap plant within the special economic district in Nakhodka. In order to supply a large enough quantity of soap to the people in the kray, we are currently discussing a plan to offer our support of facilities, technology, and manpower. [end recording]

Because industrial enterprises and cooperatives have won the right to carry out external activities very recently, they have no work experience or (?actual results). (Vladimir Welkorak), assistant at the Hyundai Company, said:

[Begin (Welkorak) recording in Russian fading into Korean translation read by announcer] I think there are many large associations in South Korea. Such organizations have experts who can offer their (?authoritative views) to the participants in domains of external economic relations. The Hyundai Company appears to pay attention to more properly preparing the Soviet entrepreneurs for carrying out such work.

In establishing a joint-venture complex, equal partners are necessary. For this, the Hyundai Company is planning to establish a school (?next year) so that the students can have training in South Korean enterprises. We often make a joke that saving a drowning person is entirely up to the rescuer himself. [end recording]

Mr. Yi Kang-il appeared to have decided to teach a method of working with overseas partners to the Primorskiy entrepreneurs while acting on the basis of this principle.

Primorskiy, which has abundant natural resources, and South Korea, which has modern technology, can be said to have a historical destiny of cooperation. This cooperation will be beneficial to both sides; and for this, time is required.

Moscow Exhibition Held Marking KPA Anniversary

SK0505090990 Moscow International Service in Korean 1330 GMT 23 Apr 90

[Text] [First announcer] As we have already reported to you, an exhibition was held in the Central Military Museum in Moscow on 20 April to mark the 58th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army [KPA]. (Valeriy Surikov), reporter of this radio station, reports on this from the spot.

[(Surikov) report read by second announcer] Each year, an exhibition marking the anniversary of the founding of the KPA was held in the Central Military Museum located in (Kuonmin) Plaza in Moscow.

The current exhibition showed a difference from previous exhibitions. The difference was that a considerable number of articles are being exhibited for the first time.

Generals and officers of the Soviet Army, soldiers serving in the (?military) district in Moscow, representatives of public organizations in the capital city, and Major General Kim Chong-chang, military attache of the DPRK Embassy, attended the opening ceremony of the exhibition. In a speech, Colonel (Genadiy Shodorov), director of the museum, said:

[Begin (Shodorov) recording in Russian fading into Korean translation read by first announcer] We have come to this (?unique) plaza to hold the opening ceremony of this exhibition. We have gathered here to express our respect and sincere thanks to the friendly Army of the DPRK which is standing in an outpost to protect the socialist gains of the last 58 years.

When you view the series of interesting articles in display, you will come to understand the difficult yet brilliant path which the fraternal KPA has traversed. I hope that the current exhibition will contribute to a further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the peoples and soldiers of our two countries.

[Second announcer] In an address in reply, Maj.Gen. Kim Chong-chang said that he sincerely thanks the Soviet Defense Ministry, the General Political Bureau of the Soviet Army and Soviet Navy and the Soviet Central Military Museum for accepting the current exhibition. He pointed out that over the past 58 years, the KPA has been turned into a strong and well-armed military force, and is reliably defending its own country and the outpost of socialism in the Far East.

Maj. Gen. Kim Chong-chang said: We express our thanks to the Soviet people and Soviet Armed Forces who helped in the founding of our Army and who extend constant support for the Korean people's struggle. We extend solidarity to the Soviet people's struggle to reform socialism in many (?domains) and to improve and stabilize the people's living standard. We sincerely wish the Soviet people great success in carrying out the reform. [recorded applause]

[First announcer] Next, Colonel (Anatoliy Popov), deputy chief in the exhibition hall displaying articles on scientific research, introduced the exhibition. The documents and pictures on display showed the course of struggle carried out by the KPA. They also showed the Soviet assistance given to Korea during the period before Korea was liberated from the Japanese colonial rule and during the period of the 1950-53 fatherland liberation war, as well as today's life of the KPA. After seeing the exhibition, Maj. Gen. Kim Chong- chang said:

[Begin Kim recording] I thank you for the explanation about the exhibition. I would like to take this opportunity to point out once again that our people are making all efforts to continuously strengthen and develop the indomitable friendship and unity between the peoples and armies of the two countries. [end recording]

Radio Moscow on Troop Withdrawal From MPR

OW0905063090 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1100 GMT 7 May 90

[Nikolayev commentary]

[Text] The Soviet Union will begin to withdraw another batch of troops from Mongolia in mid-May. In this regard, station commentator Nikolayev writes as follows.

The Soviet troops were withdrawn en masse from Mongolia from the very beginning. The troop withdrawal concided with Gorbachev's visit to China. According to a Soviet-Mongolian agreement, the Soviet Union should withdraw 75 percent of its troops from Mongolia last year and this year. The withdrawal includes both troops and military technology. All measures for troop withdrawal have been carried out in accordance with a timetable. The Soviet troops withdrawn last year represent about half the total number of troops to be withdrawn.

Moscow and Ulaanbaatar have repeatedly pointed out that, due to continued improvement of the military and political situation in the region, the Soviet Union will probably withdraw all its troops stationed in Mongolia. The withdrawal will include other areas, in addition to troops. According to a decision in March this year, all Soviet troops will return to the Soviet Union in 1991 and 1992.

Speaking on the issue of troop withdrawal at a recent press conference held in Ulaanbaatar, Lieutenant General Jadambaa, chief of the general staff of the Armed Forces of Mongolia, and Lieutenant General Mayarov, commander in chief of the Soviet troops stationed in Mongolia, pointed out: A total of 26,800 officers and men of the Soviet Army, 436 tanks, 375 guns, and 400 armored personel carriers will be withdrawn in May this year. After the troop withdrawal plan is carried out, there will be one motorized division and one unit charged with the mission of protecting military supplies and vehicle loading left in the territory of Mongolia. They will be withdrawn within this year and the next.

It should be pointed out that the Mongolian leaders do not intend to increase their own military strength to make up for the withdrawn Soviet troops. On the contrary, Mongolia will reduce its own troops, too. Ulaanbaatar believes it is possible to reorganize its troops now to maintain their strength at the mininum level necessary during peacetime. They will be charged with the mission of defense.

Thus, it can be seen that the Soviet Union and Mongolia show their desire for strengthened security and good-neighborly relations in the region by action. Undoubtedly, the similar step taken by the Soviet Union and China will also play a very great role in this regard. What we are referring to here are the agreements signed in Moscow by the Soviet Union and China on the guiding principles of reducing military strength along the border and building confidence in the military field.

Mongolians Protest Against Demonstration Decree

PM0905092790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 90 Second Edition p 6

[Dispatch by correspondent V. Sapov: "Posture and Posturing"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar 4 May—The latest action by the Mongolian Democratic Union [MDU] and the MDP [Mongolian Democratic Party] brought a discordant note to the May holidays. Their supporters staged a hunger strike in Moron, the capital of Hovsgol Aymak. Fifty people took part in it. They included three girls. Within a few days the health of four of them deteriorated, and they were taken to a yurt set up right in the middle of the square.

The official authorities consider this action to be illegal because the demonstrators violated the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium's decree on the procedure for holding processions, rallies, demonstrations, and ceremonies in the streets and squares of cities and population centers. For their part the "Democrats" ignored the given document or, to be more precise, they expressed their own protest against the decree, which makes it mandatory for them to receive authorization to hold mass events from people's hurals executive administrations seven days in advance.

Rally fever swept the capital of Mongolia in particular. This affected enterprises' work. Since the beginning of the year there has been a shortfall in output totaling hundreds of millions of tugriks. Plan targets are not being met. Social tension is growing. Waves of anti-Sovietism sometimes sweep over the demonstrators.

In reality, what can and cannot be done at rallies? There is no ban on holding them as such. As far as the regulation on timing is concerned, a week is quite sufficient. And since it is best to hold rallies outside working hours, any questions that might arise can easily be settled within five days. However, the decree forbids the holding of mass rallies that in their spirit contradict the provisions of the Constitution and the other national legislative acts, the concepts of friendship between peoples, and the unity of the Mongolian people, and those that pose a threat to state security or seriously violate public order. The latter can be observed in particular in Moron, where a number of comrades were detained by militia organs. After the official reports had been drawn up they were released, but they remained on the premises as a deliberate protest.

The incident in Moron provoked a one-sided reaction from the Democrats: We will not allow them to infringe our rights, they said. A sit-down demonstration was organized in D. Suhbaatar Square. Signatures are being collected for a petition demanding that the above-mentioned decree be repealed. And dialogue with official representatives is basically being conducted from a position of strength. This is maximalism bordering on extremist aspirations.

Speaking on television, head of government S. Gungaadorj appealed to the demonstrators for prudence. Society has entered a crucial phase in restructuring, he stressed. And now what is important is not extreme measures and ultimatums, but constructive joint work.

Opposition Persists With 'Strong-Arm Actions'

PM0905101390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 May 90 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent A. Nabatchikov report under the rubric "Panorama of International Events": "Mongolia: When Emotions Get the Upper Hand"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar—After pickets from the Mongolian Democratic Union and the Mongolian Democratic Party unsuccessfully attempted to blockade Government House in Ulaanbaatar at the end of last month, their activists have undertaken a new action to put crude pressure on the government. The hunger strike organized by these activists in the central square in Moron City, in the north of the republic, has already been continuing for many hours.

The formal reason for the declaration of the hunger strike was the arrest of the ringleaders of the Mongolian Democratic Union's recent mass rally in this administrative center of Hovsgol Aymag. It was organized in defiance of the 7 April People's Great Hural Presidium decree on the procedure for holding mass demonstrations. In a sign of solidarity with the hunger strikers, representatives of what is now an entire "Coalition of Democratic Forces," which is made up of a number of new political movements and parties and also the Mongolian Students Union, have been holding a sit-down demonstration in front of Government House in Ulaanbaatar.

It is thought here that both antigovernment actions, organized in cities of the republic situated far apart from one another, have been carefully coordinated and mark a new phase in the escalation of pressure on the country's present leadership with the aim of realizing the opposition's ultimatums.

These demands can be reduced basically to three points and concern the procedure of forming the permanently acting parliament (the Small Hural); the question of convening a so-called emergency People's Council for investigating the causes and the consequences of the former deformations in the country's leadership; and also the granting of office accommodation to the new parties and movements, together with the simultaneous "eviction" of the MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee from Government House.

The official side does not intend to accept all these demands unconditionally, as the informals are demanding; still less so when they are presented in such a categorical form. Nevertheless, in the course of a meeting which it held with the leaders of the Coalition of Democratic Forces, the new leadership, seeking a compromise, has agreed to set up under the People's Great Hural a so-called consultative council made up of representatives of all political forces and of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Council of Ministers and Ministries of Justice and Arbitration, for drawing up draft laws concerning the political structure of society, which will then be submitted for examination by the People's Great Hural Presidium.

As is being shown in practice, this approach—discussing vexed questions by means of developing dialogue and mutual understanding—evidently does not square with the informals' intent to psychologically stifle and paralyze the government's will to make independent decisions and actions. How else are we to interpret this new twist to the spiral of political tension they are artificially tightening, at a time when the country sorely needs public order and labor discipline to be reinforced? Or the statement by Mongolian Democratic Union Leader S. Zorig that in a number of enterprises in the capital and other cities in the country preparation is under way for mass strikes by workers in support of the ultimatums of the Moron hunger strikers and their sympathizers in Ulaanbaatar?

There are forces in society which fully understand how sharply the situation could worsen as a result of such irresponsible actions. This is the message of an appeal to the organizers of the latest antigovernment actions from a group of the country's war and armed forces veterans, and also prominent figures of science and culture and heroes of labor, calling for sober reason and political wisdom to replace red-hot emotions.

Unfortunately, both this and numerous other appeals to the informals expressing the growing concern now being felt among the widest circles of the Mongolian public at their recent obstructionist actions, as yet remain unheeded. The continuing hunger strike in Moron, five of the 11 participants in which, according to the latest reports, have already been hospitalized due to a severe deterioration in their state of health, is increasingly persuasive evidence of this.

As is well known, two months ago, through the same strong-arm actions, the "democrats" obtained from the previous party and government leadership a declaration of its wholesale resignation from office. The present leadership of the country believes that a spirit of moderation should dominate in all things. Are the opposition leaders capable of recognizing this truth? Or will they push the country still further toward tragedy?

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Frolov Meets With NHAN DAN Chief Editor

PM0905111990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 90 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under the general heading "Meetings at the Editorial Office"]

[Text] The editorial office was visited on 8 May by Ha Dang, candidate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and chief editor of NHAN DAN, the organ of the CPV Central Committee. He headed his newspaper's delegation to the PRAVDA festival. The guests were received by I.T. Frolov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chief editor of PRAVDA. In a comradely atmosphere those present exchanged information on the organization of newspaper work and the development of ties between the two editorial offices.

SRV Offficial's Arrival in Beijing Noted

OW0305082790 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Dinh Nho Liem, Vietnam's first vice minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Beijing on 1 May. The purpose of the Vietnamese diplomat's visit is to discuss with the Chinese side ways and means for normalizing relations between the two countries and for solving the Cambodian issue. During the visit, Dinh Nho Liem is expected to meet Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

The Vietnamese diplomat arrived in China after visiting Tokyo. In Japan he held talks with Japanese officials on bilateral relations and certain international issues.

In January 1989 Vietnam and China held the first meeting at the vice foreign ministeri level since their relations cooled down in 1979. In May 1989 they held the second round of talks.

Thai Government Spokesman Interviewed on Relations

BK0805090990 Moscow in Thai to Thailand
1100 GMT 5 May 90

[Interview with Thai Government spokesman Suwit Yotmani by unidentified Radio Moscow reporter after the 11th World Conference of Correspondents in Moscow; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] What do you think about the conference? How beneficial was it for you?

[Suwit] This conference was important. I think it was held at a very suitable time, while the Soviet Union is implementing President Gorbachev's policy of perestroyka and glasnost. First, during the time the meeting was held, we could see with our own eyes the living conditions of the Soviet people after the policy was introduced.

Second, the meeting gave us an opportunity to meet with leaders of countries from all over the world, particularly from Latin America. Normally, we rarely have any chance to meet with former leaders of Latin American countries, simply because of the distance between Thailand and those countries. The meeting was very beneficial, as we had an opportunity to exchange views with such leaders.

Third, it was very important that we had a chance to hear opinions on such subjects as environment and foreign policy from several Soviet leaders, including a deputy foreign minister. President Gorbachev's adviser on foreign affairs explained what Gorbachev's policy really is. It was quite useful for me.

Fourth, we were able to inform and express our views on Thailand's foreign policy to the former leaders of various countries—that we had put more emphasis on trade, economic cooperation, and scientific and technological cooperation. We proposed to the meeting that such a policy for trade, economic cooperation, and scientific and technological cooperation be given greater emphasis than ideology, political thinking, ruling system, or even economic system. Such a policy would help lessen differences.

Our policy is compatible with that of President Gorbachev. During the past few years, leaders, people, and the private sectors of the two countries have exchanged visits. It was essential that we were able to explain to former world leaders about Thailand and its policy and how the similarity between the policies of Thailand and the Soviet Union would benefit the two countries. Thai-Soviet trade volume has increased more than threefold in only the past few years.

Last, I think this meeting was also beneficial because we had an opportunity to exchange views and combine our efforts. Former national leaders and other participants in the meeting had a chance to join in calling on the world community and the Soviet people to support the policy we mentioned before, because this policy would bring peace to the world community as soon as possible.

Our present Thai prime minister, General Chatchai Chunhawan, has said that the world community is fed up with war—everybody is tired of war—and therefore they should trade with each other. His statement is in line with such a policy. This would lead to cooperation instead of competition, misunderstanding, or conflicts. This idea does not apply only to the expansion of relations between Thailand and the Soviet Union. We have also listened to views from present and former national leaders of other countries. They all agreed that such a policy is very beneficial, although they have not yet implemented similar policies in their countries. This is evidence of support for the policy. We have stated that we want to support this policy and wish every country to correspond positively and constructively to the policy and to have similar policies in order to bring peace to the world.

[Reporter] The Thai policy and Gorbachev's policy—glasnost and perestroyka—have helped improve relations between Thailand and the Soviet Union. The visit to Thailand by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov also contributed to the improvement of bilateral relations. Could you please elaborate?

[Suwit] The visit to Thailand by the Soviet prime minister last year was very beneficial and significant. It was the first time that a Soviet prime minister had ever visited Thailand; just as former Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak visited the Soviet Union in 1979. Ryzhkov's visit to Thailand last year was very significant for Thailand and its people. It clearly illustrates Soviet attention toward Thailand and Southeast Asia. Moreover, the Soviet premier also informed Thai Prime Minister Chatchai of his interest in more concrete cooperation between the two countries. [passage omitted on Ryzhkov's visit to Thailand]

'Uncertainty' Seen as Burmese Elections Approach

BK0605131190 Moscow in Burmese to Burma
1030 GMT 6 May 90

[Commentary by unidentified station observer: "Myanmar Before the Elections"]

[Text] According to a news report from Yangon [Rangoon], the Myanmar [Burmese] Government and the [name indistinct] petroleum company have signed an agreement for the joint exploration of petroleum in the

Gulf of Martaban. A similar agreement was also signed earlier with a Japanese company.

Our station observer says that since the elections are just some three weeks away in Myanmar, the signing of the agreements is significant and obviously done after giving due consideration to long-term interests. While the Western nations make policy statements expressing negative views about the elections being organized by the military authorities, entrepreneurs in those countries are signing cooperation pacts. Signatures on official papers from the United States, Britain, Japan, and South Korea prove that there has been a desire to explore for petroleum in Myanmar territory.

Are such agreements purely business in accordance with the saying, He who takes no risk will never get to taste champagne? Or is it because entrepreneurial circles detect a change in their countries' political attitudes toward Myanmar? Judging from the events at the Nagoya conference of political refugees [Burmese expatriates] from all over the world, the second reason seems quite implausible. This is because representatives of legislative bodies in the United States and Japan acknowledged the conference by their messages. The conference urged all UN member nations not to recognize either the military government or the elections that it will be holding. People at the conference received messages from U.S. Senator Kennedy; Congressman Solarz; and the vice chairman of the Japanese Socialist Party, (Kubota). Even though the move is only an indirect support for the antigovernment organizations outside Myanmar, the gesture can only be described as opposition to the incumbent government in Yangon.

However, major entrepreneurs do not seem to be too worried about the outcome of the elections, which are just around the corner. Perhaps the main offices of the Japanese and Western companies made their decisions because of their knowledge that the government that assumes power in Myanmar will still need some assistance from foreigners to recover from the economic hardship and ruin that faces the country. Even if that government turns out to be a military administration, it will not be the first time that companies from Japan, the United States, and the European Community have dealt with an Asian military government.

In addition, the prospects are high for the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] to continue playing a prominent role for some time to come. Statements by the authorities say the main aim of the parliament that emerges from the elections is to draft a new state constitution, while the SLORC will continue to wield power as before. This is also evident from the uncertainty arising from the political parties taking part in the elections. Observers point to the fact that the majority of political parties have not shown any firm confidence about their policies being better equipped to handle the economic problems than the policy being pursued by the present authorities.

Myanmar newspapers are carrying campaign speeches by political organizations. Voters are faced with a difficult task of deciding whom to vote for in the elections. According to a diplomat at the Myanmar Embassy in Moscow, people are fed up with too many political campaign speeches.

Even the foreign entrepreneurs doing business with Myanmar cannot say with certainty how the Myanmar people feel or will act in the upcoming elections. According to news reports from Yangon, the Myanmar Government does not intend to permit any foreigners to observe the elections. [Words indistinct] on the country's airwaves may only be permitted when the elections are near.

South Asia

Iran's Velayati Interviewed on Bilateral Ties

PM0805180190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview in Tehran with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by special correspondent V. Skosyrev; date not given: "The Verdict on the Salman Rushdie Case Cannot Be Altered, Iran's Foreign Minister Asserts in an IZVESTIYA Interview"]

[Text] Tehran—At first I thought: Is this not a mistake? Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati had set our meeting for 0530. But no, it was correct. The previous day Velayati, who was born in 1945 and has headed the foreign policy department for almost nine years, had returned from a difficult trip to New York, where he had been attacked by Iranian oppositionists. And a flight to Finland lay ahead. It was in the interval between trips that he found the time to chat with IZVESTIYA's correspondent and to expound the view on world events of the leadership of a country with 55 million inhabitants with which we are fated to live as neighbors and to maintain multifaceted ties.

[Skosyrev] How do you assess the present state of Soviet-Iranian relations?

[Velayati] We believe that bilateral relations are shaping up positively. We have made progress in this sphere since the trip to your country by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, our president. His trip was a turning point.

[Skosyrev] The accord between the governments of the USSR and Iran on a new regime for citizens of the two countries to cross the border also seems a major event in this sphere. How is it being implemented?

[Velayati] USSR Deputy Foreign Minister B.N. Chaplin visited our country recently. He held several rounds of talks with my deputy. In our assessment, they did very good work. They indicated certain points on the border for legitimate border crossings by inhabitants of those regions. After that my colleagues at the Foreign Ministry and in other ministries with a bearing on this question—

for example, the Interior Ministry or the Finance Ministry, which is responsible for customs—began preparing the ground to fulfill the border agreement. We intend to inform your country of our readiness to begin cross-border exchanges in a few weeks' time.

[Skosyrev] Let us now turn to Iran's relations with third countries. A stormy polemic has developed in the Tehran press over the possibility of direct negotiations with the United States. At the same time as Iran's vice president for parliamentary affairs advocated the normalization of ties with Washington, a number of politicians censured him. What is the foreign minister's position?

[Velayati] The vice president did not say that the time has come to normalize our relations with the United States. He supported only direct negotiations with any country. Of course, there are certain countries, not mentioned in his statement, that are excluded. Israel, for example. One viewpoint was expressed. And in our country, as in any other country that enjoys freedom, people are free to speak of their ideas. Conversations and negotiations are the only way to achieve real development in the social and political spheres. We believe that debates of this kind among our various political groups are of a positive nature.

[Skosyrev] But do you or do you not approve of the proposal to begin negotiations?

[Velayati] We are not against negotiations, but in practice the decision to begin negotiations with any country depends on the wishes and also the decision of our leadership.... We believe that, as a general idea, negotiations with other countries are a positive concept.

[Skosyrev] Does this approach mean that Iran's foreign policy is becoming more balanced? Or do you still adhere to the idea of exporting Islamic revolution?

[Velayati] Exporting Islamic revolution means exporting culture. And, even if you want to, you will not be able to prevent the cultural exportation of your ideas and your revolution. In the Soviet Union, for example, you recently developed the policy of glasnost. You cannot prevent the exportation of a school of thought of this kind across borders and its penetration of other countries. Islamic revolution is a new concept in the modern world of the 20th century. It began in Iran and has penetrated everywhere, particularly in the Islamic world. Regardless of whether you want this or not, this ideal will cross borders and spread in other countries. Of course, we support the exportation of our ideas to other countries, but not with the use of force. This is perfectly natural. You know that the West insists on the values of human rights and supports them. This means that it is trying to export its own values—humanist values—to other parts of the world. If they have such a right, then we too have the right to support the exportation of our ideas to other countries.

[Skosyrev] In this connection does it not seem to you that the time has come, guided by the principles of humanity, to rescind the death sentence on the British writer Salman Rushdie? Particularly as the conflict over Rushdie and his novel is creating an unenviable reputation for Iran in many countries.

[Velayati] The question of Salman Rushdie is a matter of principle. If you go back and study the history of how that verdict was passed and what happened afterward, you will learn that, when the late Imam Khomeyni promulgated that verdict, this happened on the basis of the principles of Islam. After that a session of the Islamic Conference Organization was held in Saudi Arabia, and all the members of that organization—46 Islamic states—accepted and approved that verdict unanimously. Certain Islamic countries which do not maintain relations with Iran at all, such as Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and even Iraq, voted for that verdict. This shows that the verdict is based on Islamic values. All Islamic nations agree with this. Muslims in Britain, Pakistan, and India have demonstrated that they are of the same opinion. So it was not a political verdict. It is a religious verdict which cannot be altered.

[Skosyrev] Bloodshed is continuing in a state bordering on our countries—Afghanistan. As far as I know, Tehran favors the conflict's peaceful settlement. The Soviet Union seeks the same thing. Could our countries not take joint steps to end the war?

[Velayati] We have already begun cooperating with your country over Afghanistan. During the exchange of opinions between Mr. Shevardnadze and myself we discussed this question and decided to cooperate. For both our states, for the region, and for the people of Afghanistan it is important to hold consultations and to cooperate at a regional level in order to reach decisions. We welcome Mr. Shevardnadze's recent proposal regarding regional consultations among Iran, Pakistan, the Soviet Union, and the people of Afghanistan on the future of Afghanistan. We believe that Afghanistan must be an independent, nonaligned Muslim state. And we all agree on these three points—I mean Iran, the Soviet Union, Pakistan, and also the various groupings in Afghanistan. We believe that the continuation of such consultations and cooperation among us is the best means of achieving lasting peace in Afghanistan. We are confident that the people of Afghanistan possess the right to decide their fate without interference from any foreign state.

[Skosyrev] The Soviet press has reported that Soviet prisoners of war are in the hands of the Afghan mujahidin on Iranian territory. If this really is so, does the Iranian Government intend to help to free our citizens?

[Velayati] I have no information about this. But if Soviet prisoners are in mujahidin hands and if the USSR asks us to demonstrate goodwill and good intentions in the spirit of humanity, then we will do all we can. But, I repeat, I have no information about Soviet prisoners of war.

Commentary on Attack on Iran's Velayati at UN

NC0905071590 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1530 GMT 7 May 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar expressed his deep regrets over an incident that took place inside the UN conference hall where Iran's Foreign Minister Velayati was attending a news conference. Iran reports that members of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO], which is banned in Iran, attacked Velayati as he was entering the conference hall. Rotten eggs were thrown at the Iranian foreign minister. An unidentified person carrying a canister of paint which he intended to throw at Velayati was also arrested. There were (?two) attackers. According to UN Assistant Secretary General (Francois Giliani), investigations are being carried out to determine the nationality of the members of this group and how they infiltrated the UN building. Our commentator writes:

Obviously, attacks on diplomats or any attempts to degrade them by [word indistinct] constitute unacceptable and uncivilized behavior. But it is clear, both to the Iranian and to the international public, that the incident inside the UN building was not accidental. It was linked with domestic developments in Iran and with the issue of human rights.

The country's officials believe that this incident was the MKO's reaction to the report prepared by Galindo Pohl, UN expert on human rights. As is know, Pohl recently visited Iran at the invitation of Iranian officials in order to investigate allegations by Iranian and international human rights organizations concerning the violation of human rights. The UN expert stated in his report that some of these allegations were not confirmed. This, according to the Iranian mass media, has allegedly enraged the MKO.

Meanwhile, some Western observers point to other possible reasons. Some time ago Kazem Rajavi, one of the members of the MKO leadership, was killed in Baghdad [as heard]. Tehran linked this assassination with internal conflicts within the organization. The MKO stresses that Kazem Rajavi was assassinated by elements of the Islamic Republic's intelligence services. Thus, observers believe that the members of the Iranian opposition organization possibly intended to insult the Iranian foreign minister in public and to thus protest against the acts by the Iranian intelligence services.

Of course this is only a possibility. But such possibilities reflect the realities of domestic political life in Iran. The issue is the monopolization of power by specific religious and political groups that are trying to prevent the overt activities of the opposition in any way possible. But where will this lead? Opposition organizations continue to operate covertly. Confrontations among the leadership, people who have been deprived of power, and people with differing views are intensifying. In such shaky conditions, bullying intensifies too. This situation is markedly different from the trends in East Europe and the Soviet Union—trends of political pluralism. But of course Iran has its own peculiarities. At any rate, I think that freedom of speech, thought, and party platforms within the framework of law is the (?correct path) for the world.

Afghanistan Reportedly Captures Pakistani Document

LD0805141590 Moscow TASS in English 1401 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Kabul May 8 TASS—The Afghan Government now has at its disposal a secret document which illustrates Islamabad's expansionist intentions as regards Afghanistan, the BAKHTAR News Agency reported.

The document is a letter from the acting chief of Pakistan's intelligence service to the military attache of a Pakistani embassy. It specifies four aims in Islamabad's Afghan policy: to capture a major Afghan city for the seat of the Afghan opposition "government," to stage an economic blockade of Afghanistan, to intensify activity among Afghan soldiers and to form a Pakistani-Afghan confederation.

Islamabad will seek official recognition of the new "Government" by as many states as possible, especially Islamic countries. Pakistan will exert its influence upon the "government" through military aid and by infiltrating all state structures, above all the military one. A vigorous propaganda campaign would be required to pursuade the world public to accept such a confederation, the letter said.

The BAKHTAR News Agency reports that the document was passed a year after the beginning of a large-scale attack on Jalalabad, and a few days before the abortive coup attempt by former Afghan defense minister Shahnawaz Tanai. It is obvious that Islamabad's anti-Afghan policy from the days of Zia ul-Haq is continuing now, BAKHTAR says.

Afghan media reported last February that a secret report from the chief of Pakistan's military intelligence service to former president Zia ul-Haq fell into the hands of competent Afghan agencies. The report gave a detailed account of Islamabad's plan to make the neighboring country Pakistan's fifth province.

Contract Signed To Build Dam in Pakistan

LD0605174190 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1220 GMT 6 May 90

[TASS correspondent Nikolay Semenenko reports]

[Text] Islamabad, 6 May (TASS)—Representatives of the "Selkhozpromeksport" All-Union Association and the Government of the Pakistani province of Baluchistan have signed a contract to construct the Mirani dam on the Dasht River. In accordance with the agreement that has been achieved, in the next five to six years the Soviet side will carry out feasibility studies and build the main project on a turnkey basis as well as a connecting highway.

According to the PPI [PAKISTAN PRESS INTERNATIONAL] local news agency, the Mirani Dam will be of great importance for Baluchistan's economy. It will bring life to tens of thousands of hectares of arid land, become an important source of drinking water, and electrical power, and contribute to the province's economic development.

The overall value of the contract amounts to about $150 million. the customer will pay 30 percent in the local currency. The remaining 70 percent will be paid off, mainly, by deliveries of consumer goods to the USSR from Pakistan.

East Europe

Yazov Sends Anniversary Message to Eppelmann

PM0905095790 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 May 90 First Edition p 1

[USSR Defense Minister Yazov's message to GDR counterpart on liberation anniversary]

[Text] To Mr. Rainer Eppelmann, GDR minister of disarmament and defense

Esteemed Mr. Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and myself personally I congratulate you and all the servicemen of the National People's Army on the 45th anniversary of the liberation of the German people from Hitlerite fascism.

I wish the personnel of the GDR National People's Army success in maintaining its combat capability in the interests of strengthened security, stability, and peace on the continent of Europe.
Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense

Lukyanov Greets GDR Counterpart on Victory Day

PM0905092190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 90 Second Edition p 5

[A.I. Lukyanov greetings message to Sabine Bergmann-Pohl, president of the GDR People's Chamber]

[Text] To Sabine Bergmann-Pohl, president of the GDR People's Chamber

I am sending cordial congratulations to you and all GDR citizens on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the German people's liberation from fascism.

May is always associated in people's memory with the victory over fascism and the liberation from Hitler's tyranny. This enabled Europe to enter a peaceful period in its development. In our time, when the progress of world affairs is increasingly determined by the new political thinking, prospects are opening up for completely eliminating the threat of war from mankind's life, and lifting from it the burden of arms.

The Soviet people, who suffered incalculable losses in World War II, are deeply interested in reliable European and universal security, and want to live in peace, friendship, and good-neighborliness with the German people and all other peoples.

I wish the republic's citizens happiness and prosperity.
[Signed] A. Lukyanov

Aboimov, GDR Envoy Discuss German Unification

LD0805173390 Moscow TASS in English 1634 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Aboimov today received Gerd Koenig, the ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to the Soviet Union, at the latter's request.

In view of the prospect of German unification, they discussed matters concerning succession regarding the treaties and agreements concluded between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic.

Gorbachev Greets Jaruzelski on Polish National Day

AU0705133390 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 4 May 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram from Mikhail Gorbachev to President Wojciech Jaruzelski on the occasion of the 3 May national holiday]

[Text] His Excellency, President of the Republic of Poland Wojciech Jaruzelski:

Greetings on the occasion of the 3 May national holiday, the anniversary of the enactment of the first democratic Polish Constitution.

I wish you and the authorities and friendly people of the Republic of Poland success in solving the complex and responsible tasks that your country faces at this stage. I am convinced that the further development of mutually advantageous Polish-Soviet cooperation accords with the interests of our two states and the interests of stability and security in Europe.

[Signed] Mikhail Gorbachev.
Moscow, the Kremlin, 3 May 1990.

Gorbachev Greets Havel on National Day

LD0805153990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The 45th anniversary of the completion of the Czechoslovak people's national-liberation struggle and liberation of this country from fascist invaders by the Soviet Army is taking place on 9 May. On the occasion of the national holiday Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has sent a congratulatory telegram to Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic.

Message Published

PM0905095390 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 90 Second Edition p 5

[Text] To His Excellency Mr. Vaclav Havel, President of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic.

Please accept our cordial congratulations on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the liberation of Czechoslovakia from the fascist invaders. The victory over fascism was the result of the joint struggle by the peoples of the anti-Hitlerite coalition. Together with Soviet soldiers, Czechoslovak patriots, fighting for the freedom and independence of their country, made a heroic contribution to its history. I express the hope that relations between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, in the spirit of the best traditions of friendship and cooperation between our countries, will develop fruitfully on the basis of equal rights, good-neighborliness, and mutual advantage. I wish you and all Czechoslovak people success in advancing toward a humane and democratic society, as well as peace and prosperity.
[Signed] M. Gorbachev.

Frolov Meets With Yugoslav Press Delegation

PM0905130190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 90 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under the general heading "Meetings at the Editorial Office"]

[Text] I.T. Frolov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chief editor of PRAVDA, met at the newspaper's editorial office 8 May with M. Tomasevic, chief editor of the weekly KOMUNIST, an LCY [League of Communists of Yugoslavia] organ; M. Komatina, chief editor of the journal SOCIJALIZAM, an LCY organ; M. Vukotich [name as transliterated], chief editor of the newspaper BORBA, the organ of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia; and D. Moyovich [name as transliterated], a staffer with that newspaper's editorial office, who were taking part in the PRAVDA festival. The discussion touched on questions of the present-day stage of the development of socialist society, the strengthening of economic and cultural ties between peoples, and the strengthening of peace in Europe.

Nikiforov Receives Romanian Ambassador 8 May

LD0805221990 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow, 8 May (TASS)—Valentin Nikiforov, USSR deputy foreign minister, today received Vasile Sandru, the Romanian ambassador to the USSR, at the latter's request. Certain aspects of cooperation between the foreign ministries of the USSR and Romania were discussed.

Correspondent Tours Albania, Previews New Ties

LD0405175190 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1036 GMT 4 May 90

["First Soviet Correspondent's Report From Albania in 30 Years"—TASS headline; report by TASS special correspondent Anatoliy Bocharov]

[Text] Tirana, 4 May—The barrier on the border between Yugoslavia and Albania was raised and our "Lada" drove into the territory of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania [PSRA]. The head of the detachment of Albanian border troops had a Soviet passport in his hands. He looked at us, smiled and suddenly, taking us completely by surprise, said "Hello" in Russian.

This event on the morning of 3 May could hardly be termed run-of-the-mill: We, two correspondents, one from TASS, the other from NOVOYE VREMYA [NEW TIMES] were the first of our Soviet colleagues for almost 30 years to have the chance to visit Albania and to see life that country leads.

To right and left of the car as it headed for Tirana, the stunningly beautiful panorama of a mountainous country opened up. One moment we soared toward a mountain pass along the dizzy bends of the road, the next plummetted into a vally. Ymer Minxhozi, editor in chief of NEW ALBANIA and secretary general of Albania' Union of Journalists, who was accompanying us, talked about the places we were passing, answered our questions and showed a lively interest in life in the Soviet Union, where he had once studied. The shutters of our cameras clicked. We talked about the changes in our countries and, naturally enough, about Soviet-Albanian relations.

"The public of our country," said Y. Minxhozi, "greeted the statement of Ramiz Alia, first secretary of the AWP [Albanian Workers' Party] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the PSRA National Assembly, to the 10th AWP Central Committee plenum, which was held in April, on Albania's interest in restoring diplomatic relations with the USSR. At the same time, our attention was drawn to the statement by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, on the Soviet sides' readiness to restore and develop friendly relations with Albania. It is for the diplomats of the two countries to determine how our relations will develop in the future, but I do think reason and the search for mutually acceptable solutions, corresponding to the interests of the peoples of the USSR and the PSRA, will prevail."

Positive changes in the international arena and the favorable political climate in Europe give a good basis for Soviet-Albanian dialogue. More than a quarter of a century has been lost in the matter of developing our relations, something that has been costly for the peoples of both countries. Most important now, evidently, is not to wallow in the errors and oversights of the past and in former differences of opinion, although that does not mean that the memory of what has been should be erased. It is simply that the time has come to objectively analyze what has happened, to cast aside all extraneous matter, and to embark by dint of joint effort upon the restoration of the edifice of Soviet-Albanian relations on a basis of complete equality, respect for sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and noninterference in one another's internal affairs, and mutual benefit.

Evening was descending on Tirana as these lines were composed. The capital of the PSRA was engaged in its usual life. There were lots of young people in the streets. Ahead lay more encounters with Albania and its hard-working, hospitable people.

Two Soviet Journalists Visit Albania

PM0805140790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 May 90 Morning Edition p 4

[AFP-attributed report: "Soviet Journalists in Albania"]

[Text] Two Soviet journalists representing TASS and the journal NOVOYE VREMYA were the first USSR citizens to set foot on Albanian soil since Tirana broke off all ties with Moscow in 1961.

The "Albanian tour" by Anatoliy Bocharov and Gennadiy Sysoyev, both accredited to Yugoslavia, has lasted seven days and ends Tuesday. "Several previous attempts to obtain entry visas at the Albanian Embassy in Belgrade proved futile, and suddenly, absolutely unexpectedly, the visas were issued," Anatoliy Bocharov told an AFP correspondent in Tirana.

Observers link this unprecedented gesture by the Albanian authorities with regard to the USSR with the recent statement by the country's leader, Ramiz Alia. He made it clear that Albania does not object to the restoration of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and the United States.

A spokesman for the Albanian foreign ministry has announced that the Soviet journalists should be followed to Tirana (for the first time since 1946) by their U.S. counterparts. They will cover the visit to Albania by UN Secretary General X. Pereze de Cuellar scheduled for 11-13 May—also the first of its kind.

West Europe

Lithuania's Prunskiene Arrives in London 8 May

LD0805172990 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The Lithuanian prime minister, Kazimiera Prunskiene, has arrived in London to meet with her British opposite number Margaret Thatcher. Mrs. Prunskiene said at Heathrow Airport Lithuania was in need of political backing to settle the problem with Moscow. She described the economic blockade against her republic as second to the political problem. She reiterated that she expected the West to spell out its position, and pointed out that the annexation of Lithuania had never been recognized by the world community. And she denied that her meeting with United States President George Bush had been inconclusive.

Possible UK Role in Situation

LD0805223490 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 8 May 90

[Excerpts] The Lithuanian prime minister, Kazimiera Prunskiene, arrived in London today for a two-day visit. Tomorrow she is meeting the British Premier Margaret Thatcher. Reporting about the Lithuanian prime minister's arrival in London, the FRANCE-PRESSE News Agency has pointed out that on Thursday Kazimiera Prunskiene will meet the French President Francois Mitterrand. On departure from Washington yesterday, where she met the U.S. President George Bush, Kazimiera Prunskiene did not deny that she intended to go to Bonn, too. According to the Lithuanian premier, the top-level meeting in Bonn might be expected to take place on Friday or Saturday, but as yet these are just the intentions of the head of the Lithuanian Government, with no confirmation from the other part(?ies). [passsage omitted]

Before departing from Washington, Kazimiera Prunskiene gave an interview for the Lithuanian service of the Voice of America. The premier pointed out that during her meeting with Margaret Thatcher she would like to give an account of the authentic situation in Lithuania so that the British head of government should join the discussions on the issue in the neighboring West European states. Kazimiera Prunskiene pointed out that having in mind Mrs. Thatcher's concrete ties with President Bush and President Gorbachev the former could become if not a mediator in the direct sense then at least a very important participant in resolving our affairs. Kazimiera Prunskiene emphasized that inspiring confidence was the fact that the initiative to hold the meeting on the 10th [as heard] belonged to Margaret Thatcher herself. As the Lithuanian premier said, a vague request to receive Lithuania's plenipotentiaries had been earlier forwarded to London, while the possibility of tomorrow's meeting was communicated soon after Kazimiera Prunskiene's visit to the White House. [passage omitted]

Lukyanov Meets With German Friendship Leaders

PM0905100190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 90 Second Edition p 5

[TASS Report: "Friendly Conversation"]

[Text] USSR Supreme Soviet Chairman Anatoliy Lukyanov received in the Kremlin on 8 May Cyrill Pech, chairman of the German-Soviet Friendship Society (GDR) Central Commission, Dietrich Sperling, president of the Federation of FRG-USSR Societies, and Franz von Hammerstein, chairman of the West Berlin Society of German-Soviet Friendship.

They arrived in Moscow to attend the festivities to mark the 45th anniversary of the Soviet victory in the Great Patriotic War.

The German guests informed Lukyanov about the activity of their organizations and emphasized that their principal goal was to promote good-neighbourliness between the Soviet and German peoples and cooperation between them in the interests of peace and security.

Lukyanov noted that the 45th anniversary of the peoples' liberation from fascism was an important pretext for reminding all about the heavy price paid for peace.

"The pledge of stronger peace in future is in preserving stability, the balance of forces and mutual interests, which form the basis on which a common European home will be built.

"Friendship societies are meant to make their tangible contribution to accomplishing the lofty tasks of fostering relations of cooperation, mutual understanding and trust between peoples and states at the present stage of development," Lukyanov said.

He emphasized that the Soviet Union respects the German people's right to self-determination. "However, this problem concerns not only Germans. An international-legal settlement is required which would fully meet lawful interests and guarantee the security of the Soviet people and people in other countries in Europe and the world," Lukyanov said.

Attention was drawn to the importance of countering nationalist and revenge-seeking phenomena and attempts to build relations with whatever country on conditions of diktat.

Lukyanov told the German guests, at their request, about current transformations in the Soviet Union and the work of the Soviet parliament.

The conversation took place in an open and cordial atmosphere.

Voronin Receives President of Italian Firm

LD0805185390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Voronin, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has received in the Kremlin the president of the Italian firm Italimpianti.

A few matters connected with the completion of the construction of an electrometallurgical complex to produce oil pipe grades at the Volzhskiy pipe works were discussed. The construction of this important project is being carried out by Italimpianti as a turnkey project with the participation of specialists of Soviet building and assembly organizations.

In the course of the meeting an accord was reached on completing the construction and commissioning the metallurgical complex in July.

Soviet Military Inspectors Arrive in Italy

LD0805140890 Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS—It was announced here that in accordance with the Stockholm Conference accord on security, disarmament and confidence-building measures in Europe, the Soviet Government on May 6 addressed an inquiry to the Italian Government concerning the inspection of military activity on its territory. Upon the reception of a positive reply to the inquiry, a group of Soviet military inspectors arrived in Italy on Tuesday and began inspection.

Girenko Meets Swedish Ambassador for Talks

LD0805133890 Moscow TASS in English 1331 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS—Soviet Communist Party Central Committee Secretary Andrey Girenko received today Swedish Ambassador to the Soviet Union Carl Otto Orjan Berner at the latter's request.

The discussion, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, concerned interethnic problems in the Soviet Union.

Cypriot Marketing Firm Seeks Outlets in USSR

PM0805134190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 90 Second Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Potapov report: "KEMA—A Solid Partner"]

[Excerpts] Nicosia—The multistory building of the Near East Research Center in Nicosia attracts attention with its monumental quality and contemporary shape. As intended, it immediately inspires the idea of a solid, dynamic enterprise instilling confidence.

KEMA—the firm's acronym, based on the initial letters of its Greek name—is an organization on a regional scale. The geographical scope of the center's activity extends to a number of Near East and European countries. Its clients include government institutions, international agencies, and major companies such as Rothmans International, Procter and Gamble, Toyota, and others.

KEMA is perhaps one of the first enterprises to be established on the island with the intention of turning Cyprus into an important business center in the region. This has been confirmed by the appearance of a whole network of branches of various banks and companies, including a branch of the USSR Bank for Foreign Economic Activity, in Cyprus.

The dynamic development of the republic, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, surprises many. The island's apparently magical transformation has not even been impeded by the intercommunal strife between Greeks and Turkish Cypriots—this strife fermented by colonization—or by foreign aggression, the violent seizure of part of its territory, and the total collapse of its economic potential as a result of all this. But the miracle is there for all to see.

I think that the opinion—that the main secret of Cypriots' visibly changing lives is the national idea that unites them and the concept of a unified, free, federative island without foreign troops and bases—is right. This, coupled with the hope—reached through suffering by generations—that the prosperous land of Cyprus will not only finally become a stronghold of peace for all its sons and daughters but also a beacon of peace for the whole turbulent region. [passage omitted]

KEMA currently studies marketing problems, offers its clients general technical and economic information, analyzes commodity movements on the market, and forecasts supply and demand and problems of labor resources and social development.

The firm publishes its information in English, Arabic, and Greek. KEMA has branches in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Morocco, Kuwait, Greece, and Hungary. It is currently taking steps to open missions in the Soviet Union, too. [passage omitted]

Frolov Receives Greek, GDR Newspaper Delegations

*PM0805150590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
5 May 90 Second Edition p 7*

[Unattributed report: "Meetings in the Editorial Office"]

[Text] On 4 May I.T. Frolov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and PRAVDA chief editor, met with a delegation from the Greek communist newspaper RIZOSPASTIS headed by its chief editor, A. Karteros, candidate member of the Greek Communist Party Central Committee Politburo. In a conversation questions concerning the role of the press and the mass media in the contemporary world were discussed and there was an exchange of opinions about the progress of perestroyka in the USSR and other problems of mutual interest.

On 4 May V. Spickermann, chief editor of NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, who heads his newspaper's delegation at the PRAVDA festival, visited the editorial office. The guests were received by I.T. Frolov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and PRAVDA chief editor. In a comradely atmosphere the interlocutors exchanged information about the organization of newspaper work, its transfer to modern equipment, and the development of ties between the two editorial offices.

Latin America & Caribbean

Abalkin Views State of Ties With Cuba

*PM0805144990 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 5 May 90 Second Edition p 5*

[Interview with L.I. Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, by V. Afanasyev; first paragraph is editorial introduction: "Cuba—A Friend and Partner"]

[Text] Soviet official representatives and specialists are frequent visitors to Cuba. A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by USSR People's Deputy O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is visiting the country now at the invitation of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government on the eve of a noteworthy date—the 30th anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic relations between our country and the Republic of Cuba, which will be marked on 6 May. But prior to that, the 20th session of the Soviet-Cuban intergovernmental commission on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation was held in Havana from 11 to 17 April, reaching new heights in relations between the two countries. How are Soviet-Cuban relations today? Our correspondent asked Leonid Ivanovich Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, leader of the Soviet delegation, and Soviet cochairman of the commission, to answer that and some other questions.

[Abalkin] In recent years a quite stable division of labor and a certain economic interchangeability have developed between our countries. For example, Cuban sugar supplies meet 30 percent of the Soviet Union's domestic needs. Some 20 percent of the USSR's cobalt production comes from Cuban nickel and cobalt concentrate. Without supplies of Cuban cobalt, enterprises in the Urals could not produce high-quality steel. Cuban citrus fruit supplies make up 40 percent of the country's market stock. And it should be clearly understood that without such a volume of supplies we would be in a completely different situation here and would have to pay capitalist countries $1.5 billion to $2 billion for the same produce.

Similarly, the present-day Cuban economy cannot exist without Soviet oil supplies. That is also natural. This is an historically created basis on which qualitatively new ties are beginning to emerge and develop. In accordance with a protocol signed between us, the volume of reciprocal trade this year will be worth over R9 billion. In 1990 Soviet exports to Cuba are to increase by 5.9 percent with imports from Cuba rising by 7.5 percent compared with last year. In the past 30 years of its development, Cuba has created quite a good scientific potential and has scored considerable successes in the development of medicine and, in recent years, in the development of tourism.

In this year's agreements we included for the first time substantial supplies of Cuban medicines and high-technology medical equipment. In the protocol we included an instruction to study the possibility of creating joint ventures in tourism for year-round vacations by Soviet citizens in Cuba, with its wonderful tropical conditions and magnificent beaches. According to our calculations, Soviet-Cuban joint ventures of this kind would pay for themselves in 18-24 months.

We have also given an instruction to study the possibility of cooperation in the medical sphere and in the use of the latest drugs to treat such widespread diseases as meningitis and hepatitis in its various forms and also the feasibility of taking on Cuban doctors for work in special medical centers, including those specializing in stomatology.

[Afanasyev] Leonid Ivanovich, it has been reported in the press that at a recent CEMA session we raised the question of basing future reciprocal payments on freely convertible currency. Was this question raised at the intergovernmental commission?

[Abalkin] This is a new factor in our relations. As is well known, these approaches presuppose a gradual transition to trade at world prices and payments in freely convertible currency. Of course, such a transition cannot be accomplished in a single document but needs time, consistent stages, and transitional measures. It is necessary to act in a considered and coordinated way. With this aim in mind it has been decided to set up a very authoritative working group to prepare proposals, arguments, and calculations.

[Afanasyev] What joint projects will be implemented or are being implemented now?

[Abalkin] We have examined the state of affairs at some very important projects—enterprises for refining Soviet crude oil and a nuclear power station that is under construction—and drawn up measures for the commissioning of the power station's first two units. We have assessed the construction of a metallurgical combine and the possibility of expanding nickel production, including production on a collective basis involving a number of CEMA countries. We have examined the nickel industry's raw materials base and found it quite promising and capable of satisfying our nickel requirements for many decades to come.

I should like to note that the world in general is now broadly discussing relations between the developed and developing countries. We know how strained those relations are, and we know that there is a search in progress to find a new international economic order which takes into account the developing countries' interests. And I think that the Soviet Union's many years' experience of cooperation with the Republic of Cuba may to some extent be an example of how such relations should be formed.

It must be said that from the very beginning of our visit to Cuba we established very frank relations. There was direct and open discussion. We informed our friends about the major changes taking place in our economy and management organization and about the restructuring of the country's entire economic management system. This aroused great interest and attention both from Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, deputy chairman of the Cuban Council of Ministers and Cuban cochairman of the commission, and from other Cuban comrades. We did not hide our problems or difficulties and received full understanding from the Cuban side. Our delegation spent 2 days with Fidel Castro visiting many joint projects, had conversations, and saw for itself the difficulties which Cubans face.

We acquainted ourselves in particular with Cuba's experience of work in the construction sphere, with methods designed to encourage high labor productivity, and with progress in the search for links between the remuneration of labor and its end results. Cubans have had achievements and successes in this respect, as our specialists have acknowledged. Cuba's economy and management system are on the move. New elements are coming into being. Bearing in mind that Cuba exists in conditions of an economic blockade and is experiencing constant and quite powerful political and ideological pressure from the United States, all this must be treated with respect.

[Afanasyev] What else do you remember most about this trip, and what other interesting meetings did you have on Cuban soil?

[Abalkin] I have the very best memories of this visit. I was given an opportunity to address the republic's State Planning Commission and a conference in which the leaders of the most important ministries and central economic departments and scientists participated. I delivered a report on problems of forming a regulated socialist market in the Soviet Union.

The most emotionally charged meetings took place in the hospitals which we visited together with Comrade Fidel Castro. We visited one hospital where Soviet child victims of the Chernobyl power station accident are receiving treatment. These are children from 18 months to 15 years of age from Chernigov and Kiev Oblasts, some of whom came with their parents. We heard from them the most enthusiastic accounts of the attention and care which Cuban comrades have lavished on them and of the treatment methods themselves. Encouraging results have already been achieved even in the treatment of extremely serious and sometimes seemingly incurable illnesses such as leukemia. The Cuban side expressed a readiness to accept up to 10,000 Soviet child victims of the Chernobyl accident for treatment and recuperation. The first 1,000 children will be sent to Cuba around 15 June this year.

There was another meeting at the hospital where our internationalist servicemen who were seriously injured in Afghanistan are undergoing rehabilitation. They are receiving tremendous attention, and the full power of Cuban medical science is being directed toward treating them. Here, too, there have been positive results. The men are very happy, they get on well together, and the Cuban army is taking care of them.

The treatment of Soviet people in Cuba is a gesture of good will and real humanity on the Cubans' part, and we must be grateful to them for that.

[Afanasyev] Our press sometimes writes that certain developing countries are living off us. Is that the case?

After all, we have always given other countries assistance, which used to be called internationalist assistance or proletarian solidarity. Are we going to help other countries in the future, too?

[Abalkin] Giving aid to other countries is a worldwide practice. The deliveries we have been making for many years are based on corresponding agreements. Some of our supplies are sent on the basis of long-term credit allocated to Cuba for the current 5-year plan under extragovernmental agreements. At the moment, for example, Cuba owes us around 15.5 billion foreign currency rubles, but those credits are not due to be repaid yet.

As for living off other peoples, I think there is much slander and artificial exaggeration here. It seems to me that it reflects certain general tendencies in the public mood in our country when, like out-and-out skinflints, we begin calculating which city or oblast is living off which other and who owes most to whom. After all, these are very complex questions and cannot be solved by such simple arithmetical operations.

Assistance takes various forms, and mutual assistance is also the norm. We are changing our terminology: We are not using the concept of proletarian solidarity, for example, even though that proletarian solidarity contained a high proportion of common humanity. Now, too, when we are stressing the primacy of general human values, a common human approach, and humanism, we must use these approaches and values. I want to stress that we see a manifestation of true humanity from Cuba all the time.

Cuba was among the first countries to come to the aid of Armenia when it was struck by the earthquake, and after the tragedy in Bashkiria the republic placed at the Soviet Union's disposal almost all its national blood reserves. They sent us some of the best, if not the best equipment for treating burns.

[Afanasyev] Sometimes you hear other people saying that Cuba criticizes the Soviet Union and our perestroyka...

[Abalkin] What answer can I give to that? During my stay in Cuba I did not come across such things. Not once. I think that we should renounce all forms of diktat in our foreign economic ties and should not link assistance to demands for particular political concessions or to certain conditions. That is imperial thinking which is typical of a number of Western countries but is completely intolerable for our country.

The whole scope of Soviet-Cuban relations, including that of credits granted to Cuba as well to other countries, was ratified by the USSR Supreme Soviet during the examination of the plan and budget for the nineties. And when signing the corresponding agreements we were guided by provisions which are reflected in our legislative decisions.

[Afanasyev] You spoke about the U.S. ideological influence on Cuba. What is the Soviet Government's position on the broadcasts of Radio Marti and the starting up of TV-Marti—a TV channel which is a subsidiary of Voice of America designed for broadcasting to Cuba?

[Abalkin] I think that TV broadcasting, just like radio broadcasting to a country's territory, is the sovereign right of that country and its legitimate government. They alone and no one else has the right to determine the conditions and methods of information provision on their country's territory. Without a discussion of all the questions on a basis of equal rights and without the conclusion of an appropriate Cuban-U.S. agreement, radio and television broadcasting to Cuba against its will may be regarded as ideological intervention. This position may seem unduly harsh but it is based on an absolute principle of neutrality. Cuba has a right to protection.

[Afanasyev] In our country we sometimes see reports that there is discontent in Cuba at some of the changes taking place in the Soviet Union and the East European countries. What was your personal opinion from your contact with Cuban leaders? How do they view what is happening in our country?

[Abalkin] I had a lot of time to talk with Fidel Castro in an unofficial capacity. This was a free exchange of opinions, and I sensed on his part a growing understanding of the processes taking place, an account of the political realities existing in the world, including Eastern Europe, and a tremendous interest in what is being done in the Soviet Union. I can say that Comrade Castro was very interested in the changes taking place in our country, in the results of the cooperative system and the lease, the formation of joint stock companies, and the state's participation in them. As for the fact that one side can voice criticisms of the other—I regard that as normal. Therefore, when a politician openly expresses his views, views which we may find unpleasant or which diverge from our own assessments, I see nothing abnormal in that.

[Afanasyev] On our newspaper's behalf I should like to congratulate you on your 60th birthday and wish you every success in your work for the good of our motherland.

[Abalkin] Thank you.

Matviyenko Leads Delegation to Nicaragua

LD0805201790 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 8 May 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[text] A Soviet delegation led by Valentina Matviyenko, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has visited Nicaragua for the inauguration of the new president of the republic, Violeta Barrios de Chamorro. [video report by Yu Baranov—shots of Soviet delegation

leader being interviewed in street by journalists, street scenes, shots of Soviet Kamaz trucks on the streets, then Soviet delegation seated with Chamorro]

[Baranov] The heightened interest in the Soviet delegation is perfectly understandable. For Nicaraguans, future relations with the Land of the Soviets are far from being a matter of indifference. Over 10 years the USSR provided selfless all-round assistance to the republic which had been liberated from Somoza's tyranny.

There are about 30 projects and cooperation programs in different spheres, and thousands of units of Soviet equipment from weaving machines to tractors and heavy-duty vehicles. This is the current level of economic and commercial contacts.

Having freed itself from the burden of excessive defense expenditure, Nicaragua is entering a period of peaceful development. In the new conditions, Valentina Matviyenko stressed, increasing the effectiveness of existing contacts is seen in the context of strengthening the mutually advantageous basis of cooperation.

The Soviet delegation was received by the new president of Nicaragua. A message from USSR President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was handed to Violeta Barrios de Chamorro.

The new president of the republic voiced satisfaction with the conversation which took place and confidence that relations between Nicaragua and the USSR will rise to a qualitatively new level, and conveyed best wishes to the Soviet people.

Costa Rican Leader Receives Envoy, Message

LD0805225390 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1647 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] San Jose, 8 May (TASS)—Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, the new president of Costa Rica, acting in his post today, has received V.G. Komplektov, special representative of the Soviet leadership, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, who is head of the USSR delegation that has arrived in San Jose for the ceremony of handing over power.

During the conversation that took place, the head of the Soviet delegation noted the readiness of the Soviet Union to strengthen relations with Costa Rica on the basis of mutually beneficial cooperation and respect for sovereign rights. V.G. Komplektov handed over a message from M.S. Gorbachev, USSR president, to the new Costa Rican president.

Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier asked the special representative of the Soviet leadership to convey thanks to M.S. Gorbachev for the message and wished the USSR president success in his activity. He also expressed interest in consolidating diplomatic ties between Costa Rica and the USSR in the development of cooperation in the field of culture and noted the need to search for new forms for expanding bilateral economic ties.

On the same day, V.G. Komplektov was received by Bernd Niehaus Quesada, the new minister of foreign affairs of Costa Rica. During the conversation that took place, subjects of mutual interest were touched upon. The need was noted to continue the practice of political consultations between the two countries and the common interest in expanding Soviet-Costa Rican relations was stressed.

Political & Social

Bolshoy Theater Soiree Marks Victory Anniversary

Ogarkov Opens Proceedings

LD0805135590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 5 May 90

[Address by Marshall of the Soviet Union Nikolay Vasilyevich Ogarkov, chairman of the All-Union Council of War and Labor Veterans, opening a festive soiree marking the 45th anniversary of the victory over fascism; in the Bolshoy Theater in Moscow—live]

[Text] Dear comrades! Friends in combat! Gathered in this hall today are war veterans and workers in the rear from the war years, who have come from all of the union republics, representatives of the working people of the capital, servicemen from the Moscow garrison, and also our guests from abroad, delegations from 33 countries and from nine international organizations, to ceremoniously mark the 45th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Fatherland War 1941-45 [applause]. This road to our victory was long and hard, but its significance for our homeland and for the destiny of all mankind is abiding. It was won in battles unparalleled in their ferocity, at the price of great sacrifices and deprivations by the Soviet people and the peoples of other countries in the anti-Hitlerite coalition.

Centuries will pass, but grateful peoples will steadfastly celebrate this unequalled feat of our generation, render merited homage to the creators of the victory, and hold sacred the memory of the heroes who fell in that war, the most cruel in world history. Permit me to declare open the ceremonious meeting devoted to the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War! [anthem]

Leadership Lineup Noted

LD0805170390 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1445 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] A solemn meeting of representatives of the working people of the capital and soldiers of the Moscow Garrison devoted to the 45th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 has just ended in Moscow at the Bolshoy Theater of the USSR. Present in the hall were Heroes of the Soviet Union, holders of the Order of Glory and other combat orders and medals and awards for peacetime labor, representatives of the working people of the capital, and envoys of the union republics. Members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Moscow and foreign guests were present.

Comrades Gorbachev, Vorotnikov, Zaykov, Kryuchkov, Ligachev, Maslyukov, Medvedev, Ryzhkov, Slyunkov, Shevardnadze, Yakovlev, Biryukova, Vlasov, Lukyanov, Primakov, Pugo, Razumovskiy, Yazov, Girenko, Manayenkov, Stroyev, Usmanov, Frolov, members of the Presidential Council of the USSR and of the government of the USSR, leaders of Moscow and Moscow Oblast took part in the ceremony. Also present were prominent Soviet military commanders, the defense ministers of the member-states of the Warsaw Pact and representatives of public organizations.

The meeting was opened by Marshal of the USSR Ogarkov, chairman of the All-Union Council of Veterans of the War, Labor and the USSR Armed Forces. The anthem of the Soviet Union was peformed. To the sound of a fanfare, the victory banner was brought into the hall. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev gave a report: "Lessons of the War and Victory." Admiral Grishanov, an active participant in the Great Patriotic War, also spoke at the meeting, as well as Skvortsov, a student of the Moscow Engineering Physics Institute, Sufkova, assistant foreman of the Moscow Sverdlov Silk Combine, Gerasimov, the film director and merited artiste of the USSR, and Major Gromov, commander of a motorized rifle battalion.

Gorbachev Gives Address 8 May

PM0905095990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 90 Second Edition pp 1,2

[Address by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, USSR president and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at a festive soiree marking the 45th anniversary of the victory over fascism, at the Bolshoy Theater in Moscow on 8 May: "Lessons of the War and Victory"]

[Text] Esteemed comrades; dear veterans: Tomorrow is one of the most vivid and tragic of our public holidays. On this spring day, 45 years ago, there came to every Soviet family the long-awaited news. The enemy had been put down, and justice had triumphed. Exultant mankind spared no epithets in praising the Red Army, our people, and the Soviet power for its feat of arms in opposing the fascist plague. The gratitude of friends and allies, the sense of duty done and the hopes for a turn for the better in world and domestic affairs to some extent eased the pain of grave and irreplaceable losses. Nine May 1945, the day of our victory, the day of pride for the whole people and of grief for the whole people, was the day when a terrible and immensely cruel war came to an end. For 45 years postwar Europe and our country have been developing in peaceful conditions.

The tumultuous 20th century is passing into history, with insights achieved by minds of genius, with huge social changes, with outstanding achievements of science and technology, with the breakthrough into space and to the secrets of the microworld, and at the same time with (its) chimeras, illusions, utopias, gigantic cataclysms, world wars, the creation of an industry of death, all-annihilating weapons, ecological crises, and overconsumption of energy.

The most acute global problems arising at this meeting point of two centuries prompt mankind to ever deeper recognition of the tendency to contradicition and conflict which is inherent in progress. On numerous occasions already the brilliant victories of human reason, outstanding scientific discoveries and technical achievements have backfired against those very people who begot them, against man their creator. Mankind, having lived through such a great tragedy as a war whose fiery tornado raked the whole world cannot fail to ponder on its cost, its consequences and lessons.

Today we remember first and foremost those who travelled the roads of war. It is a great injustice that it is impossible to name each of them individually, but it is a great truth that the name of the victor who overcame and came through everything is the Soviet people.

On 22 June 1941 an almost 200 million-strong people, with a centuries-old history, and with immense spiritual, moral, and material wealth, who had routed invaders more than once, and who had opened up and united a vast area through hard work, was thrust into war. They were a people who in just a few decades had witnessd three revolutions, a civil war, and gone through hard-won industrialization, and through the full drama of collectivization, and other grave trials, but who had maintained their faith in the ideals of October and their devotion to Soviet power. The enemy, to his surprise, came up against a people who had united in the face of common misfortune and who had forgotten and set aside their own adversities and misfortunes.

Today, the hearts of our countrymen go out to the frontliners; to each and every individual to whom the country and we, the living, owe victory.

We do profound obeisance to the Soviet soldier who bore the principal burden of the war on his shoulders, and who accomplished a great martial feat. Our profound gratitude goes to the officers and generals, and to all who roused companies and battalions to the attack, and who led regiments and divisions into battle.

Our constant gratitude goes to the remarkable commanders of the Great Patriotic War, to Marshal Zhukov, a genius in military affairs, Marshal Vasilevskiy, Rokossovskiy, Vatutin, Govorov, Konev, Malinovskiy, Meretskov, Timoshenko, Tolbukhin, Chernyakhovskiy, Tributs, Bagramyan, Yeryemenko; and also Kuznetsov, Shaposhnikov, Antonov, and other commanders.

Today we are finding out more and more about the feat of our intelligence people, to whom we owe many battles that were won and lives that were saved. We pay due respect to the partisans and to those in the underground, to those brave and courageous people.

Workers, peasants, and intellectuals in soldiers' greatcoats and officers' uniforms were defenders of the motherland. Those who wore factory clothing, padded coats, and threadbare jackets were also defenders of the motherland. Glory to them!

The epic of labor during the war years showed once again how rich in talents is the Soviet people. The names of many scientists and designers of weapons and military hardware are as of right included in the chronicle of the great victory: Grabin, Degtyaryev, Ilyushin, Kotin, Lavochkin, Mikulin, Petlyakov, Tupolev, Shpagin, and Yakovlev; as are those of people's commissars and other leaders of industry: Vannikov, Voznesenskiy, Zavenyagin, Zaltsman, Kosygin, Malyshev, Nosov, Tevosyan, and Ustinov. Paton, Kurchatov, Korolev, Glushko and thousands of Soviet scientists devoted their creative quest to the defense of the country. In the half-Starved villages left without their men, the whole burden of tilling the land devolved upon the long-suffering peasant women and female soldiers, widows, and old women. What the women achieved in war-time is inestimable and can never be forgotten. Day in the day out railway workers, drivers, and river workers transported freight. Communications workers kept communication lines open. The struggle for the lives of soldiers wounded or crippled by the war did not stop for a minute in military hospitals and hospital trains. Teachers, writers, actors, composers, artists, cameramen, the whole of our creative intelligentsia gave their labor to bring victory nearer.

Moscow, Leningrad, and the other hero-cities deserve their martial glory, but let us not forget either the worker-cities of the Volga, the Urals, Siberia, the Kuzbass and the Magnitka. Tanks and the most up-to-date aircraft, weapons of all calibers, mortars, shells, machineguns, and cartridges went to the front from Novosibirsk and Sverdlovsk, Perm, Gorkiy and Chelyabinsk, Kuybyshev and Nizhniy Tagil, and many of the country's other cities, great and small. But what would the front have done without Baku and Volga oil, and Uzbek and Tajik cotton? The country won victory by all pulling together and by the united exertion of the forces of the front and the rear. This was a truly people's war.

Words of our gratitude are addressed, too, to the soldiers of the allied armies of Great Britain and the United States of America, of fighting France and Canada, the heroes of the people's liberation armies of Yugoslavia and Albania, the servicemen of the Polish Army, the fighters against the fascist occupation, forces in Czechoslovakia, the participants in the European resistance, the fighters and partizans of China and Korea, Vietnam, and many other countries who fought against the Japanese militarists. The representatives of many of these countries are celebrating here with us today, and we greet them.

Our gratitude goes out to the antifascists of Germany who realized the kind of national catastrophe the Hitler clique had driven the German people into. In paying tribute to all those who contributed to victory, we grieve for the colossal sacrifices borne by mankind in the flames of the second world war. Forty-five years ago no one knew before the end how immense the losses borne by the Soviet people would be, and what kind of ocean of grief the blood and tears which had been shed would pour. The truth about the price of victory itself proved to be a test. To utter it is difficult even today, but one cannot but do so if the links of time are not to be broken and other hearts are not to grow hard from being forgotten.

Let us rise, comrades. Please rise. We honor the memory of the Soviet people who perished in the most bitter of wars which has ever fallen on the lot of our people, indeed, on the lot of any people. The war took away nearly 27 million Soviet people's lives, and in addition to that there were millions of people wounded, shell-shocked and frost-bitten. The war was not confined to a confrontation between warring armies, as happened in the past. The blow of the aggressor was felt on all the people and on the very foundations of their way of life.

People perished at battles on the fronts, they perished in their own houses from shells, they were shot on occupied territories as ideologically hostile or racially inferior. They were systematically destroyed in death camps without sparing old people, women and children. Hundreds of Belorussian, Ukrainian and Russian villages were burned together with their inhabitants. The number of citizens who lost their health and who became disabled from hunger and epidemic during evacuation and in bombing raids is countless. Hundreds of thousands of Soviet servicemen laid down their lives on the battlefields of Europe. Some 600,000 of our officers and men fell in the liberation of Poland; in Czechoslovakia—140,000; in Hungary—140,000; in Romania—about 69,000; in Yugoslavia—8,000; in Austria—26,000; in Norway—over 2,000; in Finland—about 2,000; in China—8,000; in Korea—1,500; and over 100,000 servicemen fell on German soil.

We honor the memory of our compatriots who endured death and torment at that terrible time in order that our people might live forever, and the history of our statehood might not be ended, and in order to free other peoples from the enslavement of fascism. We give their due to all those who were loyal to their military oath and did not sully their civic honor and who, even in Hitler's torture chambers, continued to fight for the motherland. We will not forget those without names who rest in communal graves, who died on the crossroads of war, unknown, but with honor. We bow to the memory of those who died saving the wounded, women, children, and the old. We remember all those whose destinies were turned upside down or who were deprived by the Nazi invasion. In this 45th spring since the victory, we recall those of whom nothing was said for many decades, who were deprived illegally of an honorable name and of their rights as citizens and imprisoned in the camps. Calumnied, innocents condemned, the people in the camps also made their contribution to victory by extracting the coal of Vorkuta, the timber of Siberia, and the ore and gold of Magadan. We give their due to the engineers, technicians and designers who labored in the so-called sharashki, the scientific research institutes and design bureaus behind barbed wire. In defiance of their tragic fate and without sparing themselves, these people worked for victory. We reiterate as a vow: No one and nothing has been forgotten. This is not a call for vengeance. It is the memory of the heart speaking, which makes a person human. The memory of those who did not seek glory in their defense of the homeland from the foe, but made themselves immortal by their steadfastness and courage, is undimmed.

Please take your seats.

The truth is bitter and burning. Can there be any surprise that we cannot talk of the events of that time in the past tense? They are an inseparable part of ourselves and our perception of the world. They will remain for us the measure of what is true and false on this earth. To forget the lessons of the war would be to betray both ourselves and those who shielded us with their selves, and who have slept for four and a half decades under our protection, and to leave the nascent generation without the experience gained at such a cost. Victory Day is not only an invitation to remember with gratitude those who fell for a just cause, nor merely an excuse for festive ceremonies. It is also a moment for interpreting the causes of the tragedy we call the second world war, a day for testing the sincerity of declarations of committment to a world without wars, that is equally generous to all in its warmth and light.

How did it transpire that the Soviet Union, which was the first to utter the cry "Fascism means war," and which more than anyone else exerted itself to open peoples' eyes to the threat posed by the German Nazis and Japanese militarists, was so ill-prepared to repel aggression? What caused the incredible scale of the losses and destruction which we suffered? Why was the road toward hoisting the banner of victory over the Reichstag so difficult for our army? We address ourselves to these and other key questions again and again, because the previous incomplete and sometimes also inaccurate answers do not suit our minds and conscience.

World War I showed that a policy of force will resolve nothing; it only ties tight new knots of conflict. Imperialism, however, continued thinking in terms of coercion and expansion. Soviet initiatives in favor of halting the arms race and creating a system of collective resistance to the aggressor came up against active countermeasures by governments which were officially campaigning against the use of force in international relations. Moscow's appeals met with a response largely in the workers' movement and among the progressively-oriented intelligentsia. However, the show trials of 1937-38 and the wholesale repressions turned many people away from the Soviet Union and the socialist idea.

The masters of the German Reich had drawn their own conclusions from World War I. Nazi ideology was born out of the plan for revenge. The reins of government were handed to Hitler in the name of total warfare for space to live in. A decisive element in the geopolitical program of Nazism was the destruction of the Soviet state and the physical annihilation, or transformation into slaves, of the peoples inhabiting the USSR.

War gradually began creeping into peoples' life and eating away the fabric of international relations. Even by the middle of the 1930's, in essence, the only question remaining open was that of when the separate hotbeds alight in Africa, Asia, and Europe would merge into a general world conflagration.

Academics and politicans are still arguing about whether it would have been possible to curb Hitler. A prognosis of the past is not without its uses; it provides an opportunity to become more circumspect about the future. Thus, it is obvious that the course of events would have taken a completely different turn if it had not been for the policy of appeasing the aggressor conducted by Chamberlain and Daladier, or for the perfidious calculation that Germany and the Soviet Union would bleed each other white, and that it would then be possible to impose one's will on the whole of Europe.

Yet the chance of preventing war was unlikely. But it was certainly possible to have lessened the disaster for our country that the invasion of the Hitlerite hordes became.

The Second Congress of USSR People's Deputies gave a principled evaluation of the Soviet-German nonaggression treaty concluded one week before the Nazi invasion of Poland. I will not repeat myself. I will only say that the postponement of entry into the war, bought at the price of enormous political and moral cost, was cancelled out by subsequent gross strategic miscalculations. Quite a lot was done to equip the Red Army with aviation, tanks and artillery, but the new hardware, in no way inferior to the German—it is sufficient to mention here the T-34 tank or the Il-2 ground attack aircraft—started to reach the troops in around 1940-41, and it took many months to train the soldiers and officers to use it. The position was made worse by the fact that our army had been bled white, or rather decapitated by the monstruous execution of the commanding officers. Stalin removed or repressed the commanders of the armies, corps, divisions, brigades, and even regiments, destroying the whole command system of the defense of the country. About 40,000 officers lost their lives or their freedom at that time. And what is an army without a competent command? This had become clear even before 1941, first at Lake Khasan, then in the war with Finland, and finally at Khalkin Gol, before Georgiy Konstantinovich Zhukov was appointed commander of the Soviet-Mongolian groups opposing the Japanese invaders.

Underevaluation of intelligence data also played a fateful role, as a result of which the German command was able to make full use of the factor of sudden attack and create an overwhelming superiority at the spearhead of its invasion. From the spring of 1941, Stalin was regularly receiving reports of the date of the attack that was being prepared, and even of the direction of the main thrusts of the Wehrmacht. But he preferred to base himself not so much on the degree of Germany's preparedness for a spurt eastward, as on our lack of readiness for a large-scale war.

In April and May of 1941 the Wehrmacht moved to its starting positions for a frontal attack along the border from the Barents to the Black Sea. Stalin decreed that everyone should act as if nothing was happening. Those inclined to trust their common sense rather than official optimism were to be stigmatized as provocateurs and enemies of the people—with all the ensuing consequences.

Even the fiery tornado that descended on the country on 22 June didn't immediately make Stalin suppress his arrogance and admit at least to himself that Hitler had gotten the better of him. His first impulsive move was to give the order not to cross the state border. What if this was not yet war, but just an incident? War was expected. Preparations for it were made, but it was met in confusion as though what had happened has taken us unawares. The result of the initial period of the war was dreadful for the Red Army. Millions were killed, wounded, lost without a trace, and taken prisoner by the enemy. We lost some of the most important industrial centers and agricultural regions. All Ukraine and Belorussia; Moldavia and the Baltic region; and a number of oblasts in the Russian Federation, fell under the heel of the enemy. While talking about the undisputed blame of Stalin for this, it would be wrong, if we want to remain in positions of historical truth, to cancel all of his work as supreme commander in chief and chairman of the State Committee of Defense. Possessing unlimited power, he directed by his will an especially supercentralized system of government, which in those extreme conditions played its role. But I add that it did so only because with the harshest of discipline, there was no petty tutelage. The wartime situation demanded that one trust in people, giving them the opportunity of acting independently, and it obliged them to take on responsiblity without fear themselves.

Having achieved success in the initial stage of the war, Hitler was so confident of victory that he ordered that the production of ground combat hardware should be curtailed and the output of strategic aircraft, which he intended to use in operations against the United States of America, be increased. He didn't admit the thought that Russia, seemingly laid low, would spring back; that the finely-planned outing to the East, calculated for six, a maximum eight weeks, would turn into a failure of his doctrine for global domination; would become a prologue for the death agony of the Reich. The battle for Moscow in the winter of 1941-42 occupies in this respect a special place. Here it was demonstrated that the Soviet Union, despite the colossal losses it had suffered, was not broken, that the period of despair and hopelessness would turn into firm active faith in ultimate success, and that the outcome of the world war would be determined on the expanses of Russia. There are still quite a few more defeats and failures, both in 1942 and in 1943, and even in 1945, but thanks to the Soviet soldier who stood his ground and then smashed the enemy in Stalingrad, breaking the back of the aggressor at the Kursk bulge, forcing the Dnepr and the Visla and the Oder and the Danube—first and foremost thanks to him, Europe and the world did not become brown. [reference to German military uniform]

Reflecting on the lessons of the war, you wonder every time what lay at the basis of our victory. At that time, in 1941, it seemed a miracle that our troops and volunteer corps were able to halt the mighty grouping of German troops, who were inspired by their recent victories, literally at the walls of the capital. And was not the crushing of fascist troops at Stalingrad received in the world as a miracle? Many people thought that once the Germans had reached the Volga, when a good half of the European part of the country was in their hands, the resources of our defense had been used up and that the final defeat of the USSR was inevitable.

People who had placed their last hopes in a Russia that was offering resistance were filled with despair, and with it a readiness to submit to the rule of the 1,000-year Reich. All the more unexpected and stunning, then, was the news that our troops had been able to crush Paulus's army and the Manstein and Hoth groups advancing to help him out, and thus to accomplish the decisive turn in all of World War II.

The impossibility of measuring the nature of these unusual events by the usual yardsticks gave rise to innumerable attempts to discover what mighty forces and what will were the preconditions for them, and in addition to that, all kinds of guesswork and conjecture, including that dictated by selfish political calculations. To this end a whole set of arguments came into currency, arguments which had once been used in an attempt to explain the expulsion of Napoleon's Grande Armee from Russia: The endless Russian expanses which forced troop communications to be overextended, and the attacking vanguard to be turn away from the army's rear; the impassable Russian roads, as well as Mr. Frost who invariably comes to the Russians' aid.

Recently, the argument that victory was achieved primarily because of our readiness to pay any price for it has been increasingly actively propagandized; in other words, not by courage, willpower, intelligence or sharp wits, but by a lot of blood alone. The small print is visible to the naked eye: In vain they defended Moscow and Leningrad, Kiev and Odessa, Smolensk and Sevastopol, and hundreds of other towns. One should have acted as the enlightened West European countries, who preferred to surrender their centers to the Germans in order not to place people and architectural and cultural shrines at risk. In that case, however, which side would have been victorious in World War II? I categorically reject such conjectures. They are out of touch with reality, and are in essence insulting to our Army and people, and to the antifascist struggle of other peoples.

This does not mean at all that we should resume a jingoistic stance or reject everything in history that we do not want to see or that offends our dignity. It is necessary to admit with profound bitterness that the thinking of the political leadership and military command did not always find room for the aspiration to carry out strategic and tactical assignments at the smallest cost in casualties. Frequently, and especially at first, they gained the upper hand through numbers rather than ability. Millions of human lives had to be paid for blunders committed in the preparations for war and in the organization of resistance to the invaders.

But victory seems to have been, to a decisive extent, ensured by other factors. Chief among them was the fact that the war assumed for the country a truly popular character. Hitler's generals were far from being dilettantes, but were highly skilled military specialists. If they underestimated the Russian frosts, it was just because they were banking on a blitzkrieg. These calculations were based on political computations and, above all, on the premise that Soviet power rested on a shaky foundation and had no support from the people.

Essentially, Hitler risked starting a war on two fronts, thereby transgressing the behest of Clausewitz and Bismarck, as a result only of his conviction that the invasion by the German armada would immediately give rise in our society to a twofold split—on a social and a national basis. Neither happened. What occurred was the opposite: Soviet people rallied in the face of the misfortune that they all shared. They understood with mind and heart that that was their only salvation. This became the first, and the most important, prerequisite for the inevitable defeat of the German Army. From then on, it was just a matter of when, and how, that would happen.

Needless to say, in our country of many millions, there were people who, out of harted for Soviet power or through faint-heartedness, went over to the side of the enemy. Attempts to whitewash the tribe of traitors and to depict them as unfortunate victims of Stalin's regime, or even as high-principled fighters for freedom, are futile and shameful. There is no fouler crime than to go over to the service of the enemy and to raise arms against one's own people. But the split on which Hitler and his henchmen were counting did not take place. Essentially, it was an infinitesimal part that broke away from the people and betrayed them. They [the people] displayed a rare unity of spirit. If there were offended and discontented persons—and there were more than enough of them—then all these misfortunes, perhaps even hated, too, were left on one side, because the uppermost thing for every normal person is to defend his country, his father's house, his mother and child.

A single rank was formed by millions of working people who had benefited from the revolution and regarded Soviet power as their very own, native power, as well as by those whom the revolution had deprived of property and position, and from whom it had seemingly taken everything away.

A single rank was formed by those who had worshipped Stalin as a savor, and those who cursed him as a tyrant. Thousands of emigres of the first wave, remaining implacable foes of the workers' and peasants' revolution, considered it a matter of conscience to come to the aid of the homeland in its fateful hour.

In just the same way the calculations of the fascist strategists on interethnic discord were not borne out. It is a historical fact that during the war our country knew no interethnic strife. The common evil drew everyone close together. On fronts stretching thousands of kilometers our common soil was defended by representatives of all the more than 100 peoples residing thereon. Refugees and evacuees found roof and shelter thousands of kilometers from their native homes—in the Volga and Urals regions, in the north and in Siberia, in the Far East, in the Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, Kirghizia and Tajikistan, Azerbaijan and Turkmenia, Georgia and Armenia. An orphaned child was not asked the nationality of his parents—a Russian, Uzbek, Tatar or Bashkir woman took the child into her family, sometimes already large, and replaced that child's mother.

We have those who are fond of counting up which nation has first place in numbers of Heroes of the Soviet Union, or Full Bearers of Orders of Glory. I wouldn't begin to engage in such countups, but would today pronounce a word of deep gratitude to all the peoples of the Soviet Union who together defended the independence of our great, multinational country! The party and the country swept aside and condemned the Stalinist arbitrariness toward some peoples that were accused without foundation of cooperation with the enemy. Yes, there were people of various nationalities among the traitors, but in reality there was not one people that would have gone over to the side of the enemy.

One other decisive factor in the victory should be recalled today: The organizational activity of our Communist Party. Today, when the restoration of the role of the CPSU as the political vanguard in the Leninist understanding of the word is on the agenda, it is more than appropriate to stress that never in the past has the party acted so fully in precisely this capacity as it did during the first years after the revolution and during the period of the Great Patriotic War. Eighty percent of communists were in the ranks of the armed forces. Three million of them—virtually one in every two—fell in battle. Hitler ordered that communists should not be taken prisoner, but should be shot on the spot. The fascist strategists understood perfectly well that the party is the force that organizes the resistance of the whole people to the invaders and inspires people with confidence in victory.

Our obligation to the members of the our party who took upon themselves the burden in the rear, those who raised people up to labor in the enterprises, on the construction sites or in the depths of the countryside, who tried as best they could to support the weak and cheer up those pressed down by grief and low in spirit, is no less than it is to those communists who led the fighters into the attack.

Among us today there are about 6 million people who have been at the front, including 1.1 million invalids: And there are approximately 23 million of those who labored in the rear during the war years. They all deserve our everylasting gratitude. To them we bow our heads to the very ground.

The frontline generation having gone through all the circles of the hell of war, did not live a rich life after the war, often going hungry, in the cramped conditions of communal apartments and barrack huts: It [the frontline generation] suffered and died from its wounds, it returned with difficulty to the classroom and the students' lecture hall and it headed the rayon committees, the rural soviets and the teams of the poverty-stricken collective farms. All those who have studied and have worked with people who have been at the front have been able to take from them much that is good, and first and foremost a responsible attitude to live and to the job in hand and conscienciousness.

The war also brought out the depth of the contradictions that then lay hidden in our society. During the war the crisis of that system of government, and of those methods of solving national, social and political problems which were characteristic of the regime of uncontrolled dictatorship power that had become established in the 1930's made its appearance.

Not infrequently now people ask how could it happen that a country which won the war and its victorious people should live worse than those who were defeated? The answer amounts to this: That the people that had straightened its shoulders and the person who had been emancipated—who had won victory—were once again fettered by the harsh binding ring of the authoritarian system.

It was when marching along the roads at the front that many people for the first time began to realize or at least to suspect that our country was not as advanced as they had been led to believe. When they returned to their homes they felt themselves to be just cogs [in a machine] and did not wish to be just cogs. But this sense of dignity and freedom received its first possibility of expression only after the 20th party congress. And perestroyka's chief aim is to revive in full measure respect for man's individuality and individual worth and to free his creative potential.

Work must be continued on interpreting the events of the Great Patriotic War. Quite a lot has been done by our writers, artists and film-makers and their best productions embody the popular memory about the war and about the fate of man. One must give literature its due. It has been able to talk about many things at an earlier date, and more boldly, than historical scholarship and turned public attention to the true hero of the war—the people.

We have erected many monuments in honor of Victory and the victors. We are continuing to erect them today, too. But there is nothing more important than concern for the living victors, the mothers and widows of those who died. What has been done in this respect recently? Two years ago about 4 million war and labor veterans received various benefits and privileges in material and domestic provision. By decision of the First Congress of USSR Peoples Deputies, the minimum old-age and invalids pension was raised. The benefits established for participants in the war were extended to the families of those who died. Recently, the government introduced additional benefits and privileges for war veterans and those who labored in the rear and found about R1 billion for this.

The new laws on pension provision for citizens and servicemen will help to improve the living conditions of veterans. But this is still very, very little. Many frontliners and their families are still awaiting apartments and the installation of telephones; they are in need of a doctor's attention and need to acquire medicines and other essential articles.

It is now important to make use of the potential of the newly elected soviets of peoples deputies, the organs of local self- government and labor collectives to resolve all of these issues. A lot of resources are being put at their disposal. It is necessary to expand the creation of Veterans' Clubs and Houses of Veterans, to make it possible for all who wish to do so to take an active part in public life and in any work that is within their capacity. Evidently, it will be correct to set up, within the composition of the soviets, special commissions for veterans' affairs.

Concern and attention for the generation which served at the front, the generation which saved our homeland, is our common moral obligation. I hope that everyone will agree with that.

Comrades, Germany's attack on the USSR radically changed not only the trend, but also the nature of World War II. The question arose—how could the ideological and political dissonance be combined with the need to unite forces to repulse the common threat? Life proved stronger than dogmas and prejudices. Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill didn't hesitate—the old quarrels had to be put aside. the anti-Hitler coalition was formed, a unique political achievement in World War II. There is no point in over simplifying things. In reality the cooperation at times took on an extremely contradictory, uneven and unequal form. It fell to the Soviet Union to take on the main brunt of the struggle against Germany. The procrastination in opening the second front cost us dearly, which can be explained not only by the allies' objective difficulties but also by a calculation to spare their own forces.

But today I would like to talk about something else. The anti- Hitler coalition bears witness to the poverty of a primitive, oversimplified interpretation of the contradictions between various social systems. Historical reality has revealed the unworthiness of metaphysical schemes, shown that decisive significance in the distribution of forces belongs to the confrontation between democracy and reaction. The victory in World War II is the common merit and joint capital of all states and peoples which found themselves in the struggle against the forces of aggression and obscurantism. The anti-Hitler coalition originally comprised 26, and by the end of the war, more than 50 states. Not all of them made an equal contribution to the victory. There are countries from which small units of volunteers took part in the battles, but they were together with us, and we shall never forget this. To divide the victory is not only immoral, but also politically impoverished; it is the same kind of manifestation of egoism and narrow-mindedness as attempts in our times to carve out security only for oneself, ignoring the legitimate interests of others and their right to the same security.

Unfortunately, the shoots of the new thinking in world politics, just as in the agricultural field, are often choked by weeds. The menacing danger which had brought the participants of the anti-Hitler coalition into a common military camp had not receded, when already the horizon began to be obscured by the clouds of mutual suspicion and mistrust. Yesterday's allies became mortal foes. In the UN Charter the founding states expressed determination to save further generations from the disaster of war, and, showing tolerance, to live together in peace with one another, like good neighbors. But the powers that be did not want this, and people were unable to stop the mass weapons production that had been placed on line. It is the moment when Truman told Stalin at Potsdam that the United States had an atomic bomb that historians take as the starting point of the nuclear arms race.

It has been one of the greatest tragedies of the 20th century for mankind that the demon of militarism was not exterminated with the defeat of the Axis powers. It survived, and drew the world into an unending and ruinous confrontation. World War II, like its offspring the Cold War, was an unparalleled and senseless sacrifice at the altar of Moloch, although this was not appreciated immediately. We all know that the destruction wrought by the fascists on Soviet territory was, mainly, eliminated by the middle of the fifties. Kiev, Minsk, Sevastopol, Stalingrad, Rostov, Smolensk and tens and hundreds of other towns razed to the ground arose from the ruins. The country's industrial potential was restored and exceeded—we were the first to take a step into space.

Official documents and writings on current affairs of the time contained the idea that in spite of all the colossal losses suffered by the Soviet Union, it had come out of the war a strengthened military-political and economic power that was more powerful than ever before. These assertions were substantiated by figures that were beyond doubt; many millions of tonnes of metal, coal, oil, grain, cotton, and thousands of millions of kilowatt/hours of electricity.

The register of losses of the war was regarded, as it were, closed, but under the conditions of the Cold War, the enormous wealth created by the people and intended to serve as a source of its well-being went, to a considerable extent, toward increasing armaments, and was swallowed up by military expenditure. This was one of the factors which undermined our economy and brought the country to the present crisis. The arms race resulted in an irreversible calamity: Humankind lost its immortality. The threat of an apocalyse as a result of an ill-intentioned or chance starting up of the hellish mechanism of nuclear war became altogether real. On a par with it came the threats of a catastrophe as a result of the destruction of the natural environment, the rift between the developed and developing parts of the world, spiritual impoverishment, and moral devastation. But, while keeping our eyes open to danger, we should not lose heart. Civilization's forces of protection are immense. There will be quite enough of them to prevent a third world war and to deflect other threats. What is needed is merely good sense, good will, responsibility and the ablity to learn the lessons of history. A most important lesson which the history of the war teaches us is this: In order to survive, humankind must unite and disarm.

Today we must remember that before 20 years had gone by following World War I, in various points of the planet dangerous fires of a new world war had flared up: In Ethiopia, Spain, China and Khalkin-Gol, and soon its flames had reached Tirana and Warsaw, Paris and London, Belgrade and Athens, and our country. The National Socialist German Workers' Party, such was the name the German fascists gave themselves, came to power using the mechanism of bourgeois democracy, in other words, formally by legal means. In their tactics, the fascistss made wide use of social demagogy, criticism of social injustice, unemployment, corruption among the elite. Pseudo-revolutionary phrases were in popular usage, directed at all who were dissatisfied with the Weimar democracy, but above all at the lumpenproletariat, the unemployed, and the petty bourgeoisie. Great emphasis was placed on whipping up the most base feelings, on chauvinism and racism, on the cult of force and aggressive ignorance. Abuse, shouting and violence became favorite arguments, and the ideas of pan-Germanism, racial purity and the world Bolshevik conspiracy generated mass ideological psychosis.

There was a corruption of people's consciousness which was without precedent in history. The monopolies, which had fed Nazism in their objective of a struggle against the working movement and socialism, evidently underestimated the threat to all mankind and the norms of civilization which was contained in Hitlerite ideology.

The policy of Munich, the appeasement of the aggressor and unscrupulous nature of the separate deals and secret protocols, as is known, led to nothing that was any good. I shall stress once more: 22 June 1941 drew an historically necessary demarcation line between the democracies and fascism, between humanism and inhumanity, and led to the first attempt in modern history by states with differing social systems to stand above their socioeconomic differences in the name of common human interests and values. The war proved the capability of the democratic forces of the world to unite in the face of a common deadly danger. This outcome of it has abiding significance for us—you and I—who live at a historic turning point and crucial time.

From here there follows a conclusion which is so important for presentday policy: If values which are common to the whole of mankind are sacrificed for high politics, then a worldwide catastrophe is inevitable. This bitter, historical lesson must be learned, and not only by us.

The age-old dream of peace is now, perhaps for the first time, starting to become realistic in the increasing integrity of presentday civilization—in economic, ecological, and information interdependence, the interdependence of countries and peoples, political and social systems, and all interests and aspirations. The knots of presentday problems can no longer be untied by force of arms. All must learn this well. They must be disentangled patiently, respecting the interests of all, but—and this is the main thing—by protecting what is supremely precious—human life.

In the world, and in particular in Europe, objective preconditions are now taking shape for a new model of security and consistent mutual steps in the field of disarmament. At the same time we are, of course, watching closely to ensure that no damage is done to our defense capability. No one should entertain any hopes of the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union.

Slowly but irrepressibly in Europe, truths that are above blocs and outside systems are carving themselves a road, inviting dialogue in place of saber-rattling.

The USSR and the United States, all participants in the European process, admit that there should not be either a nuclear or a conventional war in the region; that security interests are linked with reducing the sides' military activeness and considerably curtailing their offensive potentials. The events of last year and this year in Eastern Europe, especially the liquidation of the Berlin Wall and prospects for the unification of Germany, have given cause to many politicians and theoreticians on international relations to say that it is now, in 1990, that an end has come to the postwar structure of the world that was determined in Yalta and Potsdam. How true is this? Everything depends on how you interpret the Yalta and Potsdam agreements themselves. If you proceed from the fact that they represented a division of spheres of influence that later became the basis for the division of Europe, then you can indeed think that the era of Yalta and Potsdam has ended. It is another matter if you look at the Yalta and Potsdam agreements between the three powers in a strict historic context: The central idea of these accords is partnership and cooperation in the name of a world without wars and violence, on the basis of a balance of lawful interests. From this point of view Yalta and Potsdam did not secure the division of the continent, but reflected political realities that became the results of World War II and the victory in it of the anti-Hitler coalition.

In the past we have often used this expression—political realities—not taking the trouble to decipher what is hidden under this concept. This is now extremely important. I think that we should be talking about the following main elements of the postwar world: first and foremost it is agreement that the victorious powers would never permit a repeat of aggression on the part of Germany or any other state. The all-European conferences and the entire Helsinki process were born out of this main postwar reality. Now we stand on the threshold of a new, third, stage in the development of the same idea, when the creation of a permanent structure for all-European security and cooperation becomes a task.

Another postwar reality: The acknowledgement of the stable nature of borders between European states as they were established after World War II. For all of the last 45 years peace has been maintained on the continent largely thanks to the fact that even at the most acute moments of political clashes, nobody encroached on this principle, and if somebody, referring to the end of the era of Yalta and Potsdam, considered that the time had come today to carve borders, this would be a supreme, fatal, mistake. I wish to state with all responsibility that in that sense the postwar realities retain all of their meaning and any encroachments on them should be excluded.

It is quite a different matter that in present day conditions the very content of the idea of the unalterable nature of the borders of Europe is changing. They must not be altered and thus create the conditions for yet another bloody slaughter to occur. But it is possible and desirable to make them penetrable in the economic, political, social, legal, ecological and all other possible senses. All people will gain from this. This process, as we know, has been developed successfully of late.

Can there be an approach to overcoming the borders dividing the people that is more revolutionary than our concept of the construction of an all-European home or President Mitterrand's idea, which is close to it, about creating a European confederation? We wholeheartedly support such a development.

Thus, it is incorrect to reduce the whole matter to the end of the war era and the start of a different one. There can be no doubt that we have now entered into a new highly promising stage of European and world integration. But equally there can be no doubt that this has become possible not by denying but, on the contrary, by dialectically mastering the political results of the worldwide struggle in which democracy won the victory over reaction.

We are in favor of a Europe in which the peoples, to use Pushkin's words, have forgotten their quarrels in order to unite in a single family. Is this achievable? Yes, in full, as long as no one openly or surreptitiously begins to drag into the all-European home rubbish from the times of hostility and disputes, or tries to replace firm peace on the continent with new versions of the Cold War.

This is what determines our approach to the unification of Germany. We are sympathetic to the understandable desire of the Germans in the GDR and the FRG to live in a single family. The time has come to turn this postwar page in the history of Germany. I am sure that I express the common opinion when I say that Soviet people are in favor of cooperation with this new Germany, of preserving and expanding economic links, of cooperation between our two great peoples on the basis of science and culture. Political dialogue between them can give much to civilization and serve as one of the supports of the Helsinki process.

But reliable guarantees are required that in uniting the two German states, there will be no violation of the interests of our security and of other people's or of strategic stability in Europe and throughout the world.

Talks have now begun under the Two Plus Four formula. Bilateral contacts are being held with the governments of the United States, Great Britain, France, the GDR and the FRG and also of Poland, Yugoslavia, Italy and several other states. Among the important themes facing the Six is the German Peace Treaty which would finally draw the line under both World War II and the Cold War. It should give confidence that in the future only peace will stem from German soil. The treaty is called upon to determine the military status of Gemany and its place in the overall European security structure, to set out its obligations as far as the thought of a document discriminating aginst Germany and affecting the Germans' national dignity is alien to us. A new Versailles is inapt, just as refacing the separate agreements of 1952-1954 is not required.

No, it should be an act of peace in the exact and full meaning of the word. Our aim is not to renovate the past, but to create the Europe of the future. It is likely that it will be a union of states with common institutions in the area of military and ecological security and economic and cultural cooperation. If the participants of the all-European process begin to proceed in this direction, then the 45 postwar years, all adversities and discord notwithstanding, have not been lived in vain.

The world community is entering the era of disarmament and the Soviet Union is yet again ready to confirm its readiness to facilitate in every way the development of this beneficial process. No transient aspects should halt the movement toward a world free of wars and violence. It would be a very great crime against peoples if the United States of America, the USSR and other countries failed to protect the first results of the new thinking and returned to a state of confrontation. It is from these positions that we approach the upcoming Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. I want to hope that it will make it possible to make a substantial headway along a path that has already been paved and that, first and foremost, it will provide a constructive stimulus in the disarmament sphere.

Comrades, on Victory Day we naturally think of our Armed Forces and their destiny and of what they ought to be like at present. If one is to speak in the most general sense, then it is clear that the country needs a strong and modern Army and Navy, capable of ensuring a reliable defense of the Motherland, organically part and parcel of the new system of international European security, made to be in keeping with the policy of perestroyka and the new thinking.

Yes, Army problems have now become very topical. They are being discussed everywhere and in an ardent fashion. Intertwined here are the mastering of new approaches in foreign policy and the complicated collisions of the young democratic process and our economic ills and the heated passions and outbursts of emotion alike.

This comrades, is understandable. The Armed Forces are an organic and inalienable part of our society, a sort of cross-section of it. The general positive and negative aspects of our current life today show through the Armed Forces in their own way. We are satisfied with far from everything in the Army as it is today and the Army, naturally, can not be outside criticism, either. Perestroyka compels one to cast a new look at the role of the Army in society. But the examination of the Army's problems—as, incidentally, is the case where all others are concerned, too—ought to be competent, sympathetic and constructive.

The military reform we are to carry out forms an organic part of the general strategy of perestroyka. A commission of representatives of the Supreme Soviet, the Government, leading scientists and specialists is working on a detailed elaboration of its concepts. The main thing as far as the military reform is concerned is an effective development of defense with minimal expenditure of means and resources, an optimization of the personnel and structure of the Armed Forces and giving priority to the quality of arms. Questions of democratizing the Army and Navy life will have to be attentively examined; the role of political bodies in the Army and Navy will have to be thought out anew.

In one way or another, military reform affects the entire society. It requires the elaboration and implementation of statewide programs, connected with the large-scale reduction of troops and arms, the curtailment of the military budget, conversion of the defense industry. All this is linked directly with an improvement of the conditions of service, life, work and welfare of servicemen and their families, with social protection for them. We must enhance the honor and dignity of those who wear the uniform; we must eliminate fully any limitations whatsoever on the political and social rights of servicemen and any encroachments against the defenders of the Motherland.

We will protect, through the authority of the Constitution of the state, the honor and dignity of the military uniform, military rank and state awards. The transformed Armed Forces of the Soviet Union must become modern, civilized, and reliable defenders of the fatherland and a factor of the prevention of war and the safeguarding of peace.

Today, on Victory Day, I want to tell our servicemen that the country values their labor and their readiness to defend it, and will display due concern for them.

Comrades, in all the 45 years which have passed since the day of the great victory our society has moved toward a fully and more profound interpretation of its lessons. And I believe the most important of these is that the Great Patriotic War drew up to their full height and brought on to the stage of history its main character—the people. Victory visibly demonstrated wherein lies its invincible strength. It lies in the unity, responsibility, patriotism, civic dignity, and spiritual and moral strength of each person. With all the sacrifices and losses we sustained we passed the test of endurance; we were victorious, we proved that the peoples of our multinational motherland, joined together by a single purpose, present a mighty force and are able to stand up to any circumstances.

The years of military trial brought us together. This unity of the people led to victory. In the memory of this unity, people draw confidence that today, at a turning point in our history, we will stand firm and maintain our faith in the ideals for which our fathers and grandfathers gave their lives and embody them in a better present and better future.

Permit me to end in this way: The people who were victorious in this war are capable of overcoming any difficulties and solving any tasks. The people who endured such a war cannot but wish for peace with all their hearts. May we in our deeds and concerns today remember the lessons of war and victory.

Admiral Grishanov Speaks

LD0805175190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1415 GMT 8 May 90

[Speech by Admiral Grishanov at a festive soiree marking the 45th anniversary of the victory over fascism; in the Bolshoy theater in Moscow—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted: great price of victory in World War II, pride of war veterans at liberating many peoples] Tomorrow's victory parade and, of course, today's report by the president of the USSR is a new incentive for the mobilization of our forces and a spiritual upsurge in the name of the future and in the name of socialist ideologies. [passage omitted: lessons to be learned from the war and the losses sustained by the country]

A great role was played by our allies in World War II. The experience of our joint struggle is of immense significance, and it is a good thing today that we are proceeding along this path.

[Passage omitted: war veterans are loyal to their Leninist party] Our ranks are being augmented by veterans of the Armed Forces and our brave Afgansty, and yet there are still grounds today for saying that attention to the veteran public, and attention to the veterans of war is lacking in our country. I think that government bodies, soviets of people's deputies and public organizations and the mass media should more actively fall back on the advice and experience of the veterans. [applause] [passage omitted: poor living conditions still prevail for some war veterans]

As far as attitude to war veterans in the Baltic republics is concerned, this is a tragedy. This is unheard of in a civilized world. We wish our friends courage and steadfastness. We are with you, comrades! [applause]

And now, about one other thing that pains the heart. The servicemen of the Armed Forces of the Army and Navy are our heirs in combat. Unfortunately, in recent years certain political forces have been persistently forming a negative attitude toward the Soviet Armed Forces and trying to destroy among young people their concept of the motherland. The result of this has been a manifestation of pacificism and instances of evasion of military service and even, unfortunately, cases of desertion. We veterans appeal to the young people to be real men, to be prepared to fulfill your constitutional duty to defend the fatherland! [passage omitted: society should show concern for those who defend it and there must be strict civil order throughout the state; congratulates all on Victory Day]

Armed Services Chiefs Greet Veterans

PM0905113790 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 May 90 First Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "Veterans' Meeting"]

[Text] The separate Guards Motorized Infantry Brigade named for the 60th Anniversary of the USSR's Formation, Moscow Military District, had decked its camp in a festive mood on Sunday. The Ground Forces Military Council held a meeting there with heroes of the Soviet Union, holders of the three orders of glory, Armed Forces veterans, and former international servicemen in honor of the 45th anniversary of the Victory. On behalf of the USSR defense minister, Army General V. Varennikov, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, warmly greeted those assembled on the occasion of the Victory holiday.

The Strategic Missile Forces Military Council organized a reception for those who had participated in the Great Patriotic War and those who had carried out their military service in this branch of the Armed Forces. Those present were greeted by Army General Yu. Maksimov, commander in chief of the Strategic Missile Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, and Colonel General V. Rodin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Strategic Missile Forces Political Directorate.

A reception for frontline combatants was held by the Air Defense Forces Military Council. They were presented with souvenirs. Frontline pilot N. Kozlov was presented with a "50 years in the CPSU" badge by Lieutenant General N. Boyko, chief of the Air Defense Forces Political Directorate.

The Air Force Military Council organized a reception for 120 Great Patriotic War veterans at the Professor N.Ye. Zhukovskiy Military Air Engineering Academy 5 May on the 45th anniversary of the Victory.

Marshal of Aviation A. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, gave an address at the reception. Veterans were presented with diplomas and valuable gifts.

Five hundred Great Patriotic War veterans met at a reception organized by the Navy Military Council to mark the 45th anniversary of the Victory. They included those who would be on Red Square 9 May.

Admiral of the Fleet V. Chernavin, commander in chief of the Navy and USSR deputy defense minister, gave an address at the reception.

Leaders Participate in Wreath-Laying Ceremony

LD0805200590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 8 May 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] In these May days the flow of people in the Aleksandrovskiy Gardens to the Grave of the Unknown Soldier is never ending. [video shows veterans placing flowers on the grave]

On the eve of the great holiday of the Soviet people, Comrades Gorbachev, Vorotnikov, Zaykov, Kryuchkov, Ligachev, Maslyukov, Medvedev, Ryzhkov, Slyunkov, Shevardnadze, Yakovlev, Biryukova, Vlasov, Lukyanov, Primakov, Pugo, Razumovskiy, Yazov, Girenko, Manayenkov, Stroyev, Usmanov, and Frolov, members of the Presidential Council and of the USSR government came. [video shows these walking behind the wreath carried by servicemen]

In the square in front of the memorial units of the Moscow garrison formed up. The leaders of the Communist Party and of the soviet state lay the wreath. The red ribbon bears the inscription: For those who fell in the fight for their motherland, from the CPSU Central

Committee and the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers of the USSR. Paying military homage to the fallen heroes of the Great Patriotic War, the military units go by in a ceremonial parade. [Gorbachev and Ryzhkov shown laying wreath]

On the same day war and labor veterans; participants in the military parade in Red Square; Marshal of the Soviet Union Yazov, USSR minister of defense; military leaders; generals and admirals of the Soviet armed forces; and military delegations of the Warsaw Pact states, laid wreaths on the Grave of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin wall. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Moscow city and oblast soviets of people's deputies, of the Moscow city committee and oblast committees of the CPSU. A wreath was also laid by representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church. [video shows military and others laying wreaths]

Gorbachev Decree Confers Medals on Veterans

LD0805221290 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] On the eve of Victory Day the USSR president signed a decree, in accordance with which orders and medals were conferred on a large group of participants in the Great Patriotic War who received injuries in battles but who at the time were not presented with USSR state awards.

Latvia's Krumins Addresses Kremlin Veterans Meeting

PM0805141690 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 May 90 First Edition pp 1-2

[TASS report: "A Low Bow to You, Soldiers of Victory! Meeting in the Kremlin With Veterans of the War, Labor, and the USSR Armed Forces"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted comprising account of Gorbachev opening remarks at 7 May meeting, plus speeches by Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov; Tambov teacher N.V. Popov; and USSR People's Deputy V.Ya. Azarov, chairman of Moscow Oblast Council of War and Labor Veterans] The floor was given to V.M. Krumins, chairman of the Latvian Republican Council of War and Labor Veterans. From 1967-1985 he was Latvian foreign minister and deputy chairman of the republic Council of Ministers.

Time is implacably pushing back into the past the victory of 1945, and the day will inevitably come when the celebration will take place without us, without any participants in the Great Patriotic War, he said. The memory will remain. The memory of the known and unknown heroes of the front and the rear. It is our sacred duty to do everything to ensure that the traditions of this great festival are preserved forever among the people and become a durable part of patriotic education work. It is our duty to create a "Book of Memory" in time for the 50th anniversary of victory and to continue the search in order to record forever the names of our combat comrades who died. The veteran is an eternal theme. And it is quite clear that without a corresponding mutual understanding and interest between the authorities and veterans' organizations, we cannot count on any success in cooperation. A basis always exists for cooperation, even in a difficult matter such as the present one of involving pensioners in whatever work is within their powers.

In Latvia, the speaker noted, a natural law can be perceived: Wherever separatist forces have come to power, existing legislation is ignored, the privileges of participants in the Great Patriotic War are abolished, their rights are flouted, and a malicious campaign is conducted openly against the Armed Forces and against army veterans. It is up to us locally to make the local authorities strictly implement existing legislation concerning the privileges of participants in the Great Patriotic War.

But there are questions that must come under the higher competence of the country. It is no secret that social and domestic provisions for Armed Forces command personnel and veterans are currently in a lamentable condition. The law that is in preparation should certainly resolve this most important vital question. Our veterans are prepared to submit conceptual proposals on this vital problem. It is first and foremost we ourselves who need the veterans' organization, and we must make it more active. It would not be a bad idea from time to time to continue in the future to meet at the highest level.

Touching on the situation in Latvia today, the veteran noted: The separatist leaders have taken advantage of feelings of concern and dissatisfaction among the population in connection with the deterioration in living conditions. Deliberate, large-scale operations by leaders preaching antisocialist views led to the polarization of the population on a political basis. Against the background of an agenda hastily announced beforehand from above, without serious discussion, and with a minimal majority of votes, a session of the new Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet adopted the "Declaration of Independence" on 4 May.

Political autonomy and sovereignty without a stable, viable economy—that is an empty noise, a trap for fools. The real state of our republic's economy at present is such that an immediate break with the USSR means the road to nowhere, the road to chaos. This has been demonstrated by calculations, yet they try to convince us: It is better to wear bast shoes and have only candles, but to be free. Free from what, one wonders? There is only one answer—from the future, from responsibility for people's fate, for the sake of the satisfaction of one's own ambitions. Veterans of the Great Patriotic War and many labor veterans believe that in the real conditions that have developed, there is no reasonable alternative to the full-blooded development of the republic within an entirely new association of republics, on the basis of an equal union treaty, through the consolidation of all healthy forces for the resolution of concrete economic tasks, the introduction of new economic relations, and the utilization of the new economic and political thinking.

Destructive forces in our country, and that includes our republic, are turning a just, severe trial of Stalin into a court case against Lenin. This vile work is not a matter of naive delusions, the speaker stressed. In our republic, he noted, this is being done by arrogant ignoramuses who have no concept of Leninism. But this unscrupulous work also involves people with degrees, titles, a reputable position, people who took everything they could from the old times. Now they are playing along with both left and right, hoping to obtain another share of the good things from them, too. The veterans have found an apt name for these people—turncoats. Their reactionary, pseudoscientific essence must be debunked. In this connection, the speaker believes, the most important task of ideological institutions is to eradicate dogmatism, rote learning, and reliance on quotations from agitation and propaganda work. [passage omitted comprising account of speeches by M.I. Dolina, speaking on behalf of the women who took part in the Great Patriotic War; P.L. Oleynikov, speaking on behalf of rear workers; S.M. Shabashov, deputy chairman of Vitebsk Oblast Veterans' Council; K. Usenbekov, chairman of the Kirghiz Republican Council of War and Labor Veterans; USSR People's Artist L.G. Zykina, chairman of the Commission for Cultural Services to Servicemen and War and Labor Veterans; S. Morozov, deputy chairman of the All-Union Association of Councils of Internationalist Servicemen, Reserve Servicemen, and Defense Patriotic Associations; K.K. Gaurilius, chairman of the Vilnius section of the Soviet Committee of War Veterans; N.A. Gorbunova, chairman of the Commission for Labor Activity of Pensioners and War and Labor Veterans; P.I. Derzhavin, presidium member of the Odessa section of the Soviet Commitee of War Veterans; B.G. Yegorov, a tank engine designer from Barnaul; M.M. Kerembayev, war and labor veteran from Dzhambul; and USSR Defense Minister D.T. Yazov]

Moscow Commander Addresses Victory Parade Meeting

PM0805141590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
6 May 90 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Meeting of Parade Participants"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting for participants in the upcoming Moscow Garrison military parade to mark the 45th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War was held in the USSR's Bolshoy Theater 5 May.

Colonel General N.V. Kalinin, commander of Moscow Military District, who addressed the meeting, pointed out that veterans of the Great Patriotic War, partisans, underground fighters, workers in the rear services, and soldiers of the eighties will take part in this parade.

Moscow TV Carries Red Square Victory Parade

Leaders Ascend Mausoleum

LD0905060890

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0552 GMT on 9 May begins carrying a live relay of the Red Square victory parade in Moscow.

At 0559 GMT Gorbachev, Ryzhkov, Lukyanov, Supreme Soviet leaders, leaders of the Communist Party, and military commanders are seen ascending the steps of the Lenin Mausoleum.

At 0600 GMT the chimes of the Kremlin are heard. An open limousine emerges from the Kremlin with Marshal Yazov to take the salute.

Yazov Delivers Greetings

LD0905061990

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0602 GMT on 9 May continues its live relay of the Red Square victory parade in Moscow.

At this time, Moscow Domestic Service in Russian links up with the Moscow Television relay.

Yazov delivers the traditional greetings on the occasion of Victory Day and the soldiers respond with three cheers.

It is said that for the first time the victory parade is not organized by the Defense Ministry, but on the instructions of the president.

At 0610 GMT Yazov's car draws up to the entrance to the mausoleum. Yazov climbs the steps to deliver a speech.

Yazov Gives Speech

LD0905063390

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0612 GMT on 9 May continues its live relay of the Red Square victory parade in Moscow.

At this time Yazov begins his speech by congratulating the servicemen, veterans and workers, foreign visitors and comrades. Forty-five years ago the Soviet people and its armed forces devastated Nazi Germany after four hard years. This heroic war saw them bring liberation to other peoples.

The war showed the stability of the Soviet system—only by joint action could we win. The armed forces showed courage and bravery on the battlefields, and the Soviet military art demonstrated itself. The socialist organization of industry and agriculture proved itself, too. The heroism of the workers was enormous. Three million communists died in the war years. The Soviet Union pays tribute to all the allied countries and partisans and underground fighters who contributed to victory.

The new political thinking generated by perestroyka is the key to many of the problems, Yazov continues. Dialogue is taking the place of confrontation. At the same time, military danger persists. The Soviet Union has undertaken a restructuring of its military organization. The military supports the line of the Communist Party and the president.

At 0619 GMT Yazov concludes his speech and the national anthem is played.

Leadership Lineup Noted

LD0905064290

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0620 GMT on 9 May continues its live relay of the Red Square victory parade in Moscow.

As the national anthem is played, the camera pans the mausoleum to show the following leaders from left to right of screen:

Unidentified general, General Akhromeyev, General Kochetov, General Lushev, General Moiseyev, unidentified civilian, Kryuchkov, Slyunkov, Medvedev, Yakovlev, Zaykov, Yazov, Gorbachev, Ryzhkov, Lukyanov, Ligachev, Shevardnadze, Vorotnikov, Maslyukov, Vlasov, Revenko, Primakov, Yarin, and Bakatin.

Parade Begins

LD0905070490

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0622 GMT on 9 May continues its live relay of the Red Square victory parade in Moscow.

At this time, the parade is drawn to attention ready for the march past. Drummers and fifers from the Moscow Music School lead off. Victory banners from all the fronts are paraded, followed by veterans and army cadets.

They are followed at 0633 GMT by representatives of various military academies, paratroopers, and other military school representatives.

At 0642 GMT World War II T-34 tanks parade across Red Square, followed by antitank guns, Katyusha rockets, and trucks carrying soldiers dressed in World War II uniforms.

At 0645 GMT modern military hardware crosses Red Square: BTR-80's, BMP-2's, BMD's (?T-80's), (?T-72's), BMD-based self-propelled light artillery, M-19-74's, M-19-73's, BM-21 rocket launchers, heavy artillery, SA-13's, SA-8b's, unidentified missiles, Frog-7's, SS-21's, and (?SS-1b's).

At 0653 GMT Moscow military garrison troops march past.

At 0655 GMT video cuts to the eternal flame, and the Intervision transmission ends.

Leaders Attend Victory Day Parade

LD0905090190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Today is a great holiday—Victory Day. The military parade took place in Moscow in Red Square at 1000. Veterans of the Great Patriotic War, heroes of the Soviet Union, full holders of the Order of Glory, and participants of legendary parades of 1941 and the year of victory 1945 were present in the front rows. Comrades Gorbachev, Vorotnikov, Zaykov, Kryuchkov, Ligachev, Maslyukov, Medvedev, Ryzhkov, Slyunkov, Shevardnadze, Yakovlev, Vlasov, Lukyanov, and Primakov and members of the Presidential Council, as well as distinguished military leaders were present at the rostrum of the mausoleum. Yazov, USSR defense minister, made a speech. All-union radio and our panorama and central television were broadcasting directly from the main square of the country.

'Unusual' Parade Includes Soldiers of 1980's

LD0905063590 Moscow TASS in English 0619 GMT 9 May 90

[By TASS special correspondent Oleg Moskovskiy]

[Text] Moscow May 9 TASS—The military parade is being held in Moscow today in honour of the 45th anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany. Today's parade is unusual: Participants in the march-past include both soldiers of the 1980s and those who fought the enemy 45 years ago.

The V-Day is a sacred holiday for all Soviet people. The victory was won thanks to the valour of ordinary soldiers, the art of military leaders, the adamant will of guerillas and underground fighters and the unmatched labour of workers and farmers.

Mikhail Gorbachev, Nikolay Ryzhkov and other Soviet leaders are on the stand of the Lenin Mausoleum.

The Kremlin chimes on the Spasskaya Tower struck 10 o'clock. Soviet Defence Minister Dmitriy Yazov received the report by military parade commander Vladimir Kalinin. Marshal Yazov reviewed troops and congratulated them on the 45th anniversary of the V-Day.

After the review, Yazov ascended the mausoleum stand and delivered a speech.

Yazov Delivers Red Square Address

LD0905080390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0612 GMT 9 May 90

[Speech by Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov prior to the opening of the Victory Parade marking the 45th anniversary of the victory in World War II, delivered from the Lenin Mausoleum in Red Square—live]

[Text] Soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces! Dear veterans of the Great Patriotic War and veterans of labor! Working people of the Soviet Union! Esteemed foreign guests! Comrades!

I greet you and congratulate you on the holiday of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War!

Forty five years ago the Soviet people and their Armed Forces concluded the rout of fascist Germany. The struggle by Soviet people for the freedom and independence of our motherland lasted for four incredibly difficult and long years. In this heroic struggle they not only defended their native soil, but also brought freedom from the fascist yoke to the peoples of Europe. The unparalleled martial and labor feats of the Soviet people embodied the greatness of their patriotic and internationalist spirit. They carried throughout all the ordeals unshakeable loyalty to their socialist choice which was made in October 1917.

The war convincingly demonstrated the stability of the Soviet state system and the inviolability of the fraternal friendship of our country's peoples. It confirmed that it is not separately or individually, but only in close union, with mutual respect, aid, and cooperation, that any misfortunes and hardships can be surmounted, and any tasks can be accomplished.

The Soviet Armed Forces, an inseparable part of the people, augmented the glory of their battle flags on the battlefields of the last war. From that people they derived unlimited support, courage, and fearlessness, steadfastness and valor. The decisive superiority of the socialist military organization and of Soviet military art became a brilliant confirmation of this. The victory was the zenith of the fighting skill of our soldiers, officers, commanders, and military leaders.

We conquered the fascists not only on the battlefields, but also economically. During the difficult battle for metal, coal and bread, for fuel and raw materials, for the creation of weapons, the socialist organization of industry and agriculture proved its enormous possibilities. The creativity and initiative of the working class, the peasantry and the intelligentsia took on an unprecedened scale. Labor heroism was as massive as on the front.

The idea of Lenin's communist party which had taken possession of the masses, many millions strong, were a mighty material force and one of the decisive factors in our victory. The party and its bodies in the localities were the soul of a nationwide struggle. Every fourth party member fought on the front or worked at defenase enterprises. During the war years 3 million communists were killed in battle and more than 5 million new fighters joined the party ranks.

In celebrating the 45th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory, people are paying their due to the peoples and armies of the states of the anti-Hitlerite coalition and to all who took part in the struggle against our common enemy, bearing weapons, in servicemen's units, the ranks of the partisans, the resistance movement, or the antifascist underground.

The victory in the last war which was won through our joint efforts is undoubtedly something of general human value. At the same time we are entitled to consider this the achievement of our motherland and the whole people. The aggressor sustained almost two-thirds of his losses on the Soviet-German front. The steadfastness of the Soviet troops and their crushing blows against the enemy predetermined the course and the outcome of the Second World War and played the decisive role in winning the victory.

From the vantage point of today the worldwide and historic scale of our victory can be seen even more clearly. It pointed up before humanity new paths to social progress and peace. During the postwar period the forces of reaction and aggression have been able to erect many obstacles and obstructions on these paths, but, nevertheless, we have managed to preserve the fruits of victory.

The new political thinking engendered by perestroyka has become the key to the constructive resolution of the burning problems of the contemporary period. Positive changes in international life are taking place under the influence of the profound transformations in the Soviet Union. Dialogue is coming to replace confrontation. Processes of negotiation are developing. Security is being strengthened. The positive shifts have not yet, however, become irreversible. The danger of war continues to exist.

Under these conditions the Soviet Union, while maintaining its defense capability at a necessary and sufficient level, is implementing radical transformations in defense organizational development [oboronnoye stroitelstvo], which in total make up a military reform.

Together with the whole people, Soviet soldiers are actively participating in implementing the policy of perestroyka developed by the party. They approve of and support the platform of the CPSU Central Committee for the 28th party congress, the decisions of the Third Extraordinary Congress of People's Deputies, and the decisions of the president of the country, which are aimed at consolidating the unity of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Officers, soldiers, and all personnel of the Army and Navy see their patriotic and internationalist duty as being to ensure peaceful conditions for our people to accomplish the tasks of the revolutionary renewal of Soviet society, and of successful progress of the country toward a humane and democratic socialism.

Glory to the soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces!

Honor and glory to the heroes of the Great Patriotic War, to the front-liners and to the workers in the rear who defended the freedom and independence of the Soviet motherland in the struggle against the fascist invaders!

Long live the heroic Soviet people, the victor people, and their valiant Armed Forces!

Long live our great motherland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

Hurrah, comrades! [troops respond with three "hurrah"s. The Soviet national anthem is played, while an artillery salute is heard]

Pact Defense Ministers Comment on Victory Day

LD0905083190 Moscow TASS in English 0805 GMT 9 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 9 TASS—The highlight of a military parade in Moscow's Red Square this year has been a composite regiment of veterans: front-liners, underground workers, partisans, and those who contributed to the victory in the rear.

The historical victory banner fluttered ahead of columns—the banner was hoisted over the defeated Reichstag. The victory banner was followed by a truck tractor, carrying a mock-up of the monument to the serviceman-liberator, installed in Berlin's Treptow Park.

Delegations of the Warsaw Treaty member-states are present at the mausoleum rostrum. Some leaders of delegations gave interviews to TASS on the eve of the victory day.

Bulgarian Defence Minister Army General Dobry Dzhurov: "I experience remarkable feelings of gratitude to the Russian and Soviet soldiers: In the past and the present centuries they liberated my land from enslavers twice."

German Democratic Republic disarmament and Defence Minister Rainer Eppelmann: "Great thanks to the Soviet people who saved the world from the brown plague of Fascism".

Polish defence Minister, Army General Florian Siwicki: "I was fighting against the hateful invader. 45 years later we are taking pride in our victory".

A regiment of colours stepped on the Red Square. Servicemen carried 150 colours of the units which distinguished themselves in the years of the Great Patriotic War. A composite regiment included frontliners—participants in the 1945 parade, partisans, underground workers and those who worked in the rear. The march-past of a composite regiment of liberator servicemen completed the historical part of the military parade.

Traditional participants in military parades—batalions of military academies and schools, naval infantry, Suvorov and Nakhimov schools were followed in the Red Square by servicemen of the 1980s—columns of combat vehicles of the Taman Guards Motorized rifle division, the Kantemirov Guards Tank division, artillery units, columns of anti-aircraft rocket troops, truck tractors with tactical missiles.

The celebrations were crowned with a march-past of a thousand trumpet martial music orchestra.

The military parade, held in the Red Square, was not a demonstration of the Soviet Union's military might. Intermediate and shorter range missiles were absent from the military parade—that class of weapons was fully eliminated in the USSR last year.

The new political thinking, being demonstrated by the Soviet Union, is confidently winning the hearts and minds of the people in the world.

Volkogonov Pays Tribute to Fallen Soldiers

LD0905101590

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0700 GMT on 9 May broadcasts a 2.5 minute program entitled "Victors" immediately following the military parade in Red Square. The program consists of an interview with D.A. Volkogonov, doctor of philosophical sciences and head of the Institute of Military History of the USSR Ministry of Defense, under the rubric of "A Word From a Military Historian."

Volkogonov remarks that for him the day has a bittersweet flavor, when he savors victory but also remembers the fallen, and not only those of the Great Patrotic War but also "those soldiers, internationalist fighters, who died fighting fascism in Spain and those who, obeying their martial duty, helped, for instance, in Vietnam, in the Near East, and who trod dustry tracks in Afghanistan. And I think that today we should not only pay great homage to the memory of those who have died for our liberty and independence. We should also remember those who perished in captivity—but who did not give up or bow their heads—remember those also who died on anonymous heights and those who are numbered in the lists of those lost without trace. We now know that many of these lost without trace are buried in Myasnoy Bor and in other places. These people devoutly carried out the order: Not one step backward! We should pay homage to them."

Volkogonov also remembers those women who crippled themselves with heavy labor in order to forge victory.

"Today it has somehow happened that, talking about historic matters, we have ceased to write about heroism, about patriotism, about higher things, about exploits of the soul. You see, this is also the truth. You understand that the truth cannot be one-sided. We must talk about the greatest exploits. Personally, I consider that the deepest, most profound source of our victory is the people's spirit, the spirit of the Russian, Soviet people."

In conclusion, Vologonov states that we should look forward as well as back. [video shows Volkogonov seated at a table]

Yakovlev Meets Army Paper's Personnel

PM0905092390 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 May 90 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Meeting at the Editorial Office"]

[Text] On 7 May A.N. Yakovlev, member of the USSR Presidential Council, member of the Politburo, and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, answered KRASNAYA ZVEZDA readers' questions during a two-hour phone-in. Afterward he met the editorial office collective.

Greeting the journalists on the 45th anniversary of the Great Victory, A.N. Yakovlev said that he had been very pleased to accept KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's invitation, because it was a special newspaper which reflects the pulse of military and veteran life. Each mass medium can and must have its own image. Your newspaper, A.N. Yakovlev said, reflects a special mass of public opinion, and I was able to see this once again for myself talking to people during the phone-in.

Then A.N. Yakovlev answered many questions from the journalists. The meeting was chaired by Lieutenant General I.M. Panov, chief editor of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA.

The stenographic record of the phone-in, during which A.I. Yakovlev answered readers' questions, will be published in one of the next editions of the newspaper.

Armand Hammer Cited on Gorbachev

PM0805110390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 May 90 Morning Edition p 4

[REUTER-attributed report: "A. Hammer: 'I Believe in Gorbachev's Success'"]

[Text] After a recent stay in the hospital the 91-year-old industrialist Armand Hammer, president of "Occidental Petroleum," for the first time in six years attended the races in Louisville, Kentucky. In an interview with REUTER during the races he stated that over the next five years Mikhail Gorbachev will transform the Soviet Union into a federation of independent states with a mixed economy including elements of both capitalism and socialism.

"I believe in Gorbachev," A. Hammer said. "I believe he will find a solution to all the problems facing him. He is different from all the Soviet leaders since Lenin. He has understood that communism does not work."

Touching on the crisis caused by the attempted secession of a number of Soviet republics, A. Hammer predicted that Gorbachev will ultimately grant independence to Lithuania and the other Baltic republics.

"When Gorbachev is 'firmly in the saddle' he will seek radical changes in the Soviet economy, eventually bringing it closer either to the Swedish model of 'universal prosperity' or to the Japanese economy of 'full employment,'" A. Hammer said.

Expulsion of CPSU Member Lopatin 'Unjustified'

LD0805175290 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 8 May 90

[from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] In the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee: Having considered an appeal from Comrade Lopatin, member of the CPSU and head of the University of Marxism-Lenism attached to the House of Officers of the Fedotov Garrison in Vologda Oblast, about his unjustified expulsion from the ranks of the CPSU and also the publication on this matter in PRAVDA on 2 May this year, the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee has decided to suspend the decision of the primary party organization of the administration of the military unit and the party commission attached to the political department of the military unit concerned on excluding Comrade Lopatin from the ranks of the CPSU, and to instruct the Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy to check in detail the circumstances of the personal party case of Comrade Lopatin and thereafter to take the appropriate decisions.

PRAVDA Festival Political Parley Continues

PM0805110190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 90 Second Edition p 2

[N. Kozhanov, A. Petrushov, and I. Podsvirov report: "CPSU: History and Present"]

[Text] The political discussion at the "Moscow" pavilion—an oral version of PRAVDA's "Discussion Sheet" feature—continued yesterday. "Although the subject seemed to be purely academic—"Pages in the History of the CPSU and the Present"—there were once again no empty seats in the roomy conference hall.

The tone of the discussion was set by Doctor of Historical Sciences V. Naumov, who described the way in which research work on studies in CPSU history is progressing. Numerous questions and notes from the hall and unexpected speeches at the microphones illustrate how much the participants in the debate wanted to reveal the real truth amid the disputes. A. Ilin, member of the editorial collegium and PRAVDA Party Life Department editor, who was moderating the oral "Discussion Sheet" discussion, gave the floor to everyone who wanted to speak. Acute controversy developed around certain ideas put forward by S. Zinchenko, who is standing on the "Democratic Platform."

The following spoke from varying positions regarding the need for the unity of CPSU ranks and consolidation on a principled basis: Professor M. Burokyavichyus, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party (CPSU) Central Committee; journalists N. Morozova and A.

Salutskiy; Candidate of Historical Sciences L. Annus, first secretary of the Kalininskiy Estonian Communist Party (CPSU Platform) Raykom [Rayon Party Committee], Tallinn; P. Tolmachev, teacher at the Moscow Higher Party School; Yu. Polinov, RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] honored inventor; veterans V. Yanova and V. Kokshenev; V. Kalmykov, a Communist form Moscow's "Delta" Science-and-Production Association; and V. Dubovik, an engineer from Belorussia.

Unfortunately, not everyone who wanted to was able to speak. But the discussion is not over, it will continue in PRAVDA's "Discussion Sheet" feature.

Frolov Meets Guests at PRAVDA Festival

PM0805105790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 90 Second Edition p 1

[Yu. Stroyev report: "Questions for the Editorial Collegium"]

[Text] The second day of the PRAVDA festival began with a meeting with the PRAVDA leadership for its foreign guests.

There was a frank conversation at which you could not only hear other people's opinions, but also voice your own assessments and opinions.

Addressing representatives of 38 press organs from 35 countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, I.T. Frolov, CPSU Central Committee secretary and editor in chief of PRAVDA, pointed out that their arrival in Moscow attests to the newspaper's broad international recognition and described its present situation and plans. He then answered questions relating to various aspects of the life of our country, party, and society.

"In our rapidly changing world the communist press has an increased role and responsibility for upholding fundamental general human democratic values," Alvaro Oviedo, editor in chief of the Colombian weekly VOZ PROLETARIA, told me. "Under these conditions we would naturally like not only to know what PRAVDA employees think but also to conduct a kind of 'working' meeting with them. It has taken place today...."

"This was a businesslike concrete discussion between professionals," was the comment passed by other participants in the meeting with the PRAVDA leadership. "We are satisfied that the first PRAVDA festival has enabled us to have a frank discussion of problems that we encounter in our everyday life."

Official Voices Doubts on Multi-Party System

PM0205152090 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No. 17, 6-13 May 90 p 7

[CPSU official Valery Legostayev article: "One-Party System Is More Reliable"]

[Text] The current evolution towards a multiparty system arouses mixed feelings in me. Clearly we're overdue for changes. However, the sceptic in me says we've already been through it once, long ago, and that the abundance of political parties didn't do this country any good. On the contrary, it caused a lot of tragedy. Our country's dramatic past—the February and October Revolutions of 1917 (when Russia had about a hundred political parties), the ruining of centuries-old political and religious structures, the ensuing fratricidal Civil War, etc., didn't come out of the blue but grew up on the prolific soil of Russia's multiparty system of the early 20th century. Today we must remember that the transition to a one-party system took place when the country was on the verge of irreparable dislocation.

What can be said in favour of a one-party system? Evidently with one massive party the country managed to survive, during its seven decades, through the direst trials in its history and preserved state independence and territorial integrity. This circumstance, as I see it, by far outweighs all either well or poorly justified criticism at the address of the former one-party system in this country.

There's another aspect to this issue. The USSR is strikingly different from countries with multiparty systems. It seems that a multiparty system doesn't go well with the world's territorially largest states. Noteworthy, the USA, China, and until recently, Brazil, are not multiparty societies, strictly speaking. The same is true about the complexity of ethnic composition of countries. In this respect there are no truly multiparty countries comparable with the USSR.

Religion is a special issue. It is important to note that multiparty states are practically homogeneous in religion. A single and through-going church structure is of primary importance for the ensurance of the country's domestic integrity. The situation in the Soviet Union is a different matter. Three powerful and secretly rival religions—Eastern Christianity (the Russian Orthodox Church), Western Christianity (the Catholich Church), and Islam—exist in the USSR. None of the three dominates the others, and this imparts some special internal tension to the entire complex of inter-confessional relations in the country. Any upset in the fragile religious balance is particularly dangerous.

This is how I see the background against which the new political parties are arising here today. This process, which is not controlled by anyone or anything, not by any legislation, could lead to the politization of the three aforementioned factors: territorial (separatism), national (nationalism), and religious factors. That has already been the case, to a certain extent, in the Baltic Republics, Transcaucasia, Tajikistan and some areas of the Ukraine. This kind of development of events is clearly unacceptable.

We vitally need a law on political parties. The state's supreme bodies must pay special attention to this aspect of our social life. Those who identify themselves with political parties today must feel utmost responsibility for the fate of our country. Personally, I like the programme of the Liberal Democratic Party of the Soviet Union. I like the calm and balanced attitude which lacks aggressiveness and ostentatious criticism. On a number of important points of the programme, the aims of liberal democratics coincide with the aims of the CPSU, for example, on the issue of creating a state governed by the rule of law. Thus, I think, we have a basis for cooperation of the two parties in the future, in spite of some serious divergencies.

Komsomol Plenum Elects Officials

LD0405201490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] A plenum of the Komsomol Central Committee was held in Moscow today. For the first time since the 21st Congress of the Lenin Komsomol questions of the renewal of the youth union were sharply raised. On the agenda are the formation of the leading bodies—the secretariat, the Bureau of the Komsomol Central Committee, and the approval of a number of resolutions which were not adopted at the congress due to lack of time.

The plenum elected Smirnov as second secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee. (Kurzanov) was elected chairman of the council for the problems of pupils and young students. (Yepifantsev) was elected chairman of the council for the problems of young people in the USSR Armed Forces. The principles of shaping the basic functions of the standing commissions of the Komsomol Central Committee were also approved. (Fronin) was elected editor-in-chief of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA.

The plenum will continue its work on 5 May.

Metropolitan Filaret Elected Acting Patriarch

LD0405083390 Moscow TASS in English 0655 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS—Metropolitan Filaret of Kiev and Galich, the Patriarchal Exarch of the Ukraine, has been elected locum tenens of the patriarchal seat of the Russian Orthodox Church. The decision was taken in the early hours on Friday by the Holy Synod of this, the largest Orthodox confession.

Metropolitan Filaret will attend to current affairs of the Orthodox Church leadership until a new patriarch is elected to replace the late Patriarch Pimen, who passed away on Thursday.

A local council of the Russian Orthodox Church will be convoked to elect the new patriarch.

TRUD Provides Refugee Figures

LD0405110190 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1003 GMT 4 May 90

[Excerpt] Moscow, 4 May (TASS)—The Soviet trade union newspaper TRUD today devoted a large article to the problem of refugees in the USSR. It reported that there are now about 600,000 refugees in the country. In Armenia there are 230,000; in Azerbaijan, 210,000; in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, more than 150,000. (There is a particularly large number of migrants in the northern Caucasus, in Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays.)

There are now 41,000 refugees registered in the Soviet capital. They are placed mainly in suburban guest houses. [passage omitted]

Statistics on Alcohol Speculation, Lost Worktime

PM0805104490 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 1 May 90 p 1

[Unattributed roundup under the general heading: "USSR State Committee for Statistics Reports:"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] **On Alcohol Speculation**

Speculation in alcoholic beverages has not stopped. Distortions in the antialcoholism policy led to the formation of many groups attached to wine stores and departments who make considerable profits from alcoholic beverages as a result of self-interested restrictions on their sale. According to estimates, in 1989 the population acquired from speculators alcoholic beverages to the value of R1.2 billion, and the income of dealers in the alcohol trade amounted to at least R100 million. [passage omitted]

Losses In Work Time

In 1989, 63.5 percent of the calendar worktime was actually worked in the construction sphere.

The average number of days worked per worker decreased somewhat by comparison with 1988. In 1989, all forms of nonattendance at work, other than nonattendances allowed by law, increased. Nonattendances in connection with holiday leave increased three percent, nonattendances owing to illness by four percent, and nonattendances with the administration's permission and absenteeism—by almost a quarter.

The numbers of all-day stoppages by workers caused by strikes in affiliated organizations increased.

In 1989, 798,000 person-days were lost in construction organizations due to strikes (in 1988 the figure was 358,000 person-days).

Soviet Peace Committee Appeals for End to Strife

LD0705221590 Moscow TASS in English 2117 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 8 TASS—The Soviet Peace Committee on Monday appealed to Soviet citizens, urging them to stop ethnic strife and establish peace in the country.

The appeal, issued on the eve of the 45th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over fascist Germany, says that "the road to peace proved much longer and more difficult than it seemed in 1945.

"The radical changes in Europe are only now putting an end to the postwar period of confrontation. The brown plague proved to be viable and is again striking root not only in the West but also in the Soviet Union.

"Soviet people take close to heart the events in Sumgait, Tbilisi, Novy Uzen, Fergana and Baku. Irresponsible appeals are often made at noisy gatherings in the centre of Moscow and Leningrad.

"This is why the main concern of Soviet peace campaigners today is to put an end to ethnic strife and establish peace in the country. It is time to understand that each nation, each person is a huge integral and controversial world," the Soviet Peace Committee's appeal says.

All-Union Youth Organization Supported

90US0787A Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Apr 90 p 2

[Article by V. Grigoryan, editor of the Armenian Republic newspaper KOMSOMOLETS, delegate to the 21st Komsomol Congress, Yerevan: "With the Center, But Which One?"]

[Text] The issue of questions which many people are asking these days is whether a union wide organization is needed at all.

It is needed, I think, and especially now, since only the status of a union organization will make it possible for the youth union (I am deliberately avoiding the word "Komsomol" in this context; but about that later) to sustain itself as a powerful political force. This constitutional right of the youth union which has no analogs will make it possible in the new sociopolitical setting for it to fully express and protect the real interests of youth at all levels. And if there is no all-union organization there will be a disappearance of constitutional law, and the status of the political force, and our legislatively backed economic "privileges" which have made it possible for the Komsomol [All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League] to acquire a certain economic independence in a short period of time.

The youth union should, while de jure remaining a unified organization, be reborn and de facto turn into a movement that unites all youth organizations, unions, movements, and so forth, which possibly differ in many ways but share the political declaration of the country's youth union (in essence, its program) which can be briefly formulated as follows: Any organization that expresses the interests and aspirations of youth for freedom, brotherhood, and equality and does not pursue... we know which goals, may be a member of the union. Precisely this should be the direction of the regulations: maintaining the organization and at the same time reorganizing it taking into account the requirements of youth and the spirit of the times.

Here is the key; that is, while submitting to reality, it is necessary to solve the problem of the name. Since we must have a unified youth union for the entire country, we must make it possible for all progressive youth organizations to join it, avoiding, as it were—once and for all—ideological programming and ideological dependency. There is absolutely no need to be shattered simply because a monolithic organization is being transformed into a heterogeneous one that unites the forces of the most diverse political and social persuasions of the conglomerate of youth. Not at all. The fact is that the retained republic-union model of the structure of the youth union, for lack of a more rational or more acceptable one, makes it possible for all these contradictions, confusion, and political and ideological differences to remain at the republic (or regional) level.

In the republics (regions, at worst) the organizations will reach a consensus. And they will transfer some of their authority to the center which is formed from their authorized representatives—certainly not a center that leads and points the way, but one that coordinates and develops the foundations of the youth policy.

Do not get me wrong—I have not expressed the unanimous viewpoint of the Armenian youth delegation to the 21st Komsomol Congress. I have expressed only my own, with which I hope many will agree.

MVD Anti-Mafia Department Chiefs Interviewed

PM0305142790 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 29 Apr 90 p 4

[Unidentified correspondent's account of interview with Ministry of Internal Affairs officials O. Burov and S. Kozhanov in response to reader's letter: "Is the Mafia Immortal?"—no place or date of interview given; first two paragraphs are a reader's letter]

[Text] "Our times are often described as troubled times. Crime, including organized crime, is increasing. A department has been set up at the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] to combat international crime. Are our mafiosi already in contact with the Sicilian clan? Why do we need the department?

"A. Zverev."

A "Dialogue" correspondent obtained information from O. Burov and S. Kozhanov, leaders of the USSR MVD department to combat manifestations of international organized crime.

The department was formally created in January in accordance with the decisions of the Second Congress of USSR People's Deputies, although it has effectively been in existence since November 1989. Its functions have not been finally determined. The KGB has traditionally handled questions of terrorism and smuggling.

"How many people are there in your service?"

"Aside from the chief and deputy chief, there are only seven people working in the department. There are only around 1,200 of us nationally."

"Cases of corruption among internal affairs organs' personnel are well-known. Do you have safeguards against that?"

"I think so. The nine people working in our department were selected over a period of five months. People we have known for many years are recommended for the organs. We check their moral stability. It can be carried out secretly: We ask relatives, friends, acquaintances, and colleagues to provide a reference."

"In your opinion, how can one combat smuggling and stop international criminal cooperation?"

"Above all, by economic methods. I think one must use the deposit mechanism. For instance, the 'Polish channel' problem is very acute at the moment. Enormous batches of various goods are smuggled through it. Let us suppose that one and the same Polish citizen is taking computers to Hungary via USSR territory. In Brest he would pay $1,000 for each. If they are in his possession when he crosses the Soviet-Hungarian border at Chop, he would get his deposit back. If not, he will have to pay the full value, plus a fine. Revenue for the state, a rebuff for the smugglers."

"What are the most powerful groups you have identified?"

"Several cases are being investigated. Some R5 million were confiscated from one group, which comprised 15 people. Another group robbed the country of the astronomical sum of R188 million."

"If foreign citizens are involved in crimes on the territory of the USSR, are you entitled to arrest them?"

"Yes, in all cases except those where the individual who committed the crime has diplomatic status."

Independent Workers Movements Hold Congress

LD0105055990 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0300 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Even on the holiday, the First All-Union Congress of Independent Workers' Movements is continuing in Novokuznetsk. (Golikov), chairman of the Council of Kuzbass Workers' Committees, delivered a report yesterday on the state of and prospects for development of the workers' movement in the USSR. In order to accomplish perestroyka today, the main force of society, the initiative of the people, must be set in motion; and one must proceed in all things from the priority of the individual and his needs. This was the main idea of the speech.

At the congress it is planned to adopt resolutions on the government program to improve the economy, on relations with the CPSU, the Soviets, and the AUCCTU, and other documents. The delegates are also discussing the question of establishing a single center which would tackle consolidating the workers' movement in the country.

Deputy Minister Views Food Trade Problems

PM0805142390 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 90 Second Edition p 5

[Interview with S.D. Aleshin, USSR deputy trade minister, with own correspondent Ye. Sorokin under the "Our Interviews" rubric: "Dialogue at the Food Counter"—date and place of interview not stated; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] It has become a tradition in our country to "throw" more food products onto store counters before holidays. Alas, you will not make a profit on such days with the current shortages. But nevertheless... What can we expect in food stores this month, what problems are restricting their normal operation? A PRAVDA correspondent's interview with S.D. Aleshin, USSR deputy trade minister, deals with these questions and many others.

"I am afraid that we will not have an entertaining interview," were the words with which Sergey Dmitriyevich started the discussion. "The food situation remains extremely strained. The plan for livestock purchases was not fulfilled either in the first quarter or in April. Where could an abundance of foodstuffs for the holidays have come from? We imported a certain amount of meat products, but they are being dispatched in an unsatisfactory manner.

[Sorokin] And what was the story about the 1,500 tonnes of meat from the FRG which we allegedly refused because we didn't have anything to transport it in?

[Aleshin] That is just another rumor. What is 1,500 tonnes to us? It is just a drop in the ocean. We bought 104,000 tonnes of meat, 5,000 tonnes of cheese, and 15,000 tonnes of dried milk from the FRG. The delivery problems have been resolved. What was at stake was something else—it is simply that our veterinary inspectors are very strict about bringing meat into the country. Specialists from the veterinary inspectorate visited the FRG and resolved all the questions.

The situation with respect to butter trading is also strained. Although the amount of milk purchased has increased, it still does not meet the country's needs. There is a coupon system in a number of places.

[Sorokin] Our readers are most exasperated about the short supply of products which were readily available until recently, for instance sugar and confectionery.

[Aleshin] This is a direct result of the ill-conceived antialcohol campaign. And the situation is worsening. In 1990 the Trade Ministry has even fewer stocks and resources of wines and champagne than last year. In 1989 over 200 million dekaliters of wine was produced, while in 1990 the figure will be 140-145 million. Vodka and wine products are bought and sold on coupon in 32 oblasts today.

The tea trade has not been normalized as yet. We used to sell 280,000-300,000 tonnes of tea annually. This year we have stocks of 420,000 tonnes but we cannot normalize the situation at all.

[Sorokin] Is that also a result of the antialcohol campaign—that people have started drinking tea instead?

[Aleshin] It is hard to say. But the situation is alarming—tea is sold on coupon in a number of places. The adoption of the decision to restore tea plantations in Georgia resulted in a sharp reduction in production of tea in our country, and we import it. And if Indian tea appears on the market, it is simply bought for the future and "horaded."

Admittedly we have managed to normalize the coffee situation. Whereas in the past few years we sold 24,000-26,000 tonnes of coffee annually, this year we have stocks of 65,000 tonnes. Since our industry does not have the facilities to roast it, we will sell 25,000 tonnes of green coffee.

[Sorokin] So, Sergey Dmitriyevich, you have painted quite a depressing picture. And at the same time hundreds of thousands of tonnes of food is wasted every year and is thrown out onto the scrap-heap. We still do not know what ecologically clean food looks like, and instead we often buy moldy sausage.

[Aleshin] Let us look at this in the right order. It is generally accepted worldwide that industrial prepackaging of foodstuffs means huge economies. If we had the possibility of having all our foodstuffs prepackaged when we receive them from industry, we would not only make economies; we would also be insured against embezzlement, abuse, short-weighting, overcharging, and so on. Through prepackaging alone, according to scientists' calculations, we would stop 55,000 tonnes of food from going bad.

As far as ecologically clean food is concerned, here I agree with you—we are a whole epoch behind the developed countries. Would that we could provide such food for infants.

You ask about moldy sausage. Do you see how it happens? After all, we are forced to hoard sausage. Half-smoked and well-smoked sausage. Particularly for holidays. For instance, in Moscow, we stockpiled 2,000-2,500 tonnes of sausage products for the May holiday. And this had to be done over at least two or three months, or we would have disrupted preholiday trade.

[Sorokin] I think that this information will interest the workers' controllers. And they will again start saying—the trade workers are hoarding sausage.

[Aleshin] But after all, it is stored at wholesale bases, and not retail premises. We have that right. By 30 April, we had over 30 tonnes of meat products in cold storage in Moscow city. There is also 2,000 tonnes of sausage, but it is not on sale since it is distributed as part of market allocations.

[Sorokin] What is your attitude to selling in response to customers' orders and at enterprises?

[Aleshin] I believe it is necessary. And convenient.

[Sorokin] But, Sergey Dmitriyevich, the trouble is that they "stick" any old thing into these orders. And you have to take it whether you like it or not.

[Aleshin] What do you mean "whether you like it or not"? There is a rule: The purchaser has the right to refuse food that he does not need in the order. And the list of food is confirmed by the trade union committees in enterprises. The trade system does not have the right to impose products on you that you do not need.

[Sorokin] Well, yes. The sellers are fulfilling the commodity turnover plan....

[Aleshin] Commodity turnover has nothing to do with it. It is increasing and exceeding the plan anyway. Here is the summary for 26 April. Since the beginning of the year we have had a "plus" of 5,720 million rubles [R]; an increase of around 13.9 percent. This is a typical example of the unscrupulousness of leaders of trade organizations, and sellers too.

[Sorokin] Sergey Dmitriyevich, I still remember the years when you could buy imported sausage with no restrictions. What happened to it all?

[Aleshin] Why do you say: "What happened to it"? It was simply that Finland sharply reduced its sale of meat products and sausage products to our country. The same goes for Hungary, which, in addition, increased prices. And almost all of this sausage is distributed through the customer-orders departments.

[Sorokin] Why is there a shortage of low-fat milk products?

[Aleshin] You are right. We have much untapped potential here too. Skimmed milk is hardly used at all in our country today, and there is a shortage of fat-free produce. And these are a great help. Not everyone needs milk with a six percent fat content. I, for instance, would happily buy one-percent kefir. Or skimmed milk. But industry supplies very little of this produce.

[Sorokin] There was a time when buttermilk was on sale.

[Aleshin] That is a wonderful thing. And I would also buy it with pleasure. But alas.... The reason is the same.

And here is another example of how industry lets us down. The bottle situation today is simply a disaster; soon it will be summer and we have nothing into which we can pour nonalcoholic drinks. Plants now have only 60-65 percent of the packaging they need.

[Sorokin] And why is there such a poor variety of food products? The same pastries all the time. Why don't they produce 15 or 20 different kinds?

[Aleshin] Industry produces what is convenient. No one wants to make a loss today. They simply stop producing something and that's that. For instance, the whole of the canned food industry is transferring to contract prices. And that means a danger that if its hands are completely untied, it will increase prices by five or 10 times. We must prevent this. There should be maximum prices on fresh and canned fruit and vegetables. The industry must not be allowed to "get out of hand." I think that there should be strict control by local organs.

[Sorokin] Sergey Dmitriyevich, why do we have such long waiting lines in the food stores?

[Aleshin] Because of the shortages. That is the first thing. Second, as far as Moscow is concerned, the large influx of people from outside the city. Third, personnel shortages, and the small volume of prepackaged goods.

[Sorokin] What does the Trade Ministry intend to do to improve stores' working hours?

[Aleshin] These are questions for the local soviets. For our part, we have recommended an increase in the network of duty-roster stores and stores open at night. We support any initiative if it benefits the consumer. The problem now lies elsewhere—sellers do not have the opportunity to regulate the flow of goods throughout the day. During the day everyone is at work, but it is at that time that the most vigorous trade goes on. And just try and hold back the sausage till the evening—the workers' controllers will turn up unexpectedly and you will not be able to prove anything. And yet it always used to be the rule that part of the goods were sold in the morning, at opening time, and part in the evening. Now this practice has disappeared without trace.

[Sorokin] So there is now no point in smokers from PRAVDA hurrying to the tobacco kiosk at 3 o'clock—the time at which you always used to be able to get "Yava"?

[Aleshin] Incidentally, you have touched on the problem of tobacco products. You know that this is a specific problem?

[Sorokin] In what respect?

[Aleshin] There are no filters or spare parts. Today six tobacco factories have now stopped working. The point is that the producer that had the monopoly, the Kirovakan Chemical Combine, has not been operating since the time of the earthquake, and there are no others. We have already written two notes to the government to the effect that urgent measures must be taken. Some brands are not being produced because there are no spare parts for the imported equipment.

[Sorokin] Sergey Dmitriyevich, are you satisfied with the food allowance for the average Soviet person?

[Aleshin] Of course not.

[Sorokin] What would you like to see?

[Aleshin] First, more meat and milk products. Second, we need more fruit, vegetables, and greens. We only have them in summer or autumn. And even then they are very limited, especially fruit.

[Sorokin] How do you see the food store of the future?

[Aleshin] Primarily it will be a store operating on a lease or a family contract. There is one like that in Moscow, for example, in Insurrection Square. I visited it recently. There is more produce, fewer waiting lines, and the sales assistants are more polite. They themselves see to it that produce is available, and they are interested in selling more. That is where the future is.

In connection with the Victory Holiday, I would like to wish PRAVDA readers prosperity and happiness. We trade workers will do all we can so that this holiday is not overshadowed.

Economic

Abalkin Interviewed on Market Economy Transition

LD0705183590 Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 7 May 90

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Andrey Orlov]

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS—Academician Abalkin, Soviet deputy premier known as the reform minister for his role in shaping the Soviet Government's theoretically-based economic policy, has turned 60.

His prime concern at the present is the country's transition to a market economy, he told an academic gathering on his birthday.

He was up to his ears finalising the draft programme for the transition, Abalkin told colleagues at the Economic Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He added that he hoped to see the programme published soon.

"We are absolutely clear about which economic model we want to build, how we want it to function and what shock-absorbers we need," he said. "What we lack so far is a plan for the transition process itself," Abalkin admitted, calling upon his academic think-tank to step up efforts to this end.

He stressed the need of a national consensus to ensure an effective transition to the market economy.

In an interview with TASS Abalkin spoke about unemployment problem in a market economy. He said he was sure unemployment could be avoided or at least reduced to a minumum. The transition will inevitably lead, and is already leading to, redundancies in production, especially at economically torpid enterprises. About 1 million workers are becoming redundant in Soviet industries at present. In order to avoid mass unemployment, retraining programmes, small enterprises and work in two shifts at economicalily efficient enterprises have to be developed.

Abalkin said he believed in success because, unlike previous attempts at economic reform, the current one is much better substantiated theoretically.

Economist Examines Progress of Reforms

LD0705115490 Moscow TASS in English 1133 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS—"The dual status of managerial structures in the Soviet economy is the main contradiction of ongoing economic reforms in the Soviet Union," Professor Boris Milner, member of the State Commission for Economic Reform under the USSR Council of Ministers, told a seminar of Soviet top managers here today.

The seminar is discussing the initial results and prospects of Soviet economic reform. "The old managerial structures no longer correspond to the new economic conditions, while new structures are still in the making yet," Milner noted.

In an interview with TASS, Milner stressed the importance of promoting diverse forms of economy in the USSR and of changing from vertical managerial structures to horizontal ones. This is how a market economy can be established painlessly, the scientist believes.

"There are sprouts of the future economy in the Soviet Union already. They include such managerial structures as concerns, state economic associations and consortiums, which are no longer managed by ministries and obey only the law and the will of the working collectives that have established them," Milner said.

"Today there are 16 intersectional state associations in the country that are no longer subordinate to ministries, 25 joint-stock societies, 17 concerns, 207 state economic associations, and 8 consortiums.

"These new organisational structures employ more than 800,000 people and turn out almost R25 billion worth of production. The Soviet Government has several hundred applications to establish such economic organisations. According to the Economics Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, almost 350 concerns will be set up in the Soviet Union within the next two or three years. They will account for 40-45 per cent of all manufactured goods produced in the country.

"At the end of last year the State Commission for Economic Reform under the USSR council of Ministers approved provisional rules for the establishment of new associations of socialist enterprises. If approved, they will later be included in the law on socialist enterprises that is currently being discussed in parliament. Such new organisational structures will be able to counterbalance the ministries and departments, to delineate economic management at state and grassroots levels, Boris Milner stressed.

Trade Official Cites 1989 Grain Import Figures

90UF0120A Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 17, 28 Apr-4 May 90 p 8

[Untitled interview with O. Klimov, "Eksportkhleb" All-Union Foreign Trade Association chairman, by ARGUMENTY I FAKTY correspondent D. Gradov; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Gradov] How much grain was purchased abroad in 1989 and at what price? (question submitted by N. Merinov, Krasnodar)

[Klimov] In 1989, 38 million tons of grain were purchased abroad at a cost of R3.2 billion. In contrast to previous years, the percentage of wheat of overall grain imports comprised just 37 percent—14 million tons of wheat were imported for R1.4 billion. Mainly fodder grains were imported—corn, barley, oats, and sorghum.

In addition to grain, 4.8 million tons of soy meal and soybeans were imported for fodder purposes, totalling R0.8 billion.

[Gradov] What was the volume of purchases from our producers for currency following adoption of the USSR Council of Ministers resolution?

[Klimov] As of the beginning of April 318,000 tons of wheat and oil seeds were purchased from kolkhozes [collective farm] and sovkhozes [state farm] for a total of R15.7 million in freely convertible currency, under conditions as stipulated by Resolution No. 620 of the USSR Council of Ministers dated 8 August 1989. A number of farms yielded grain and oil seeds two or three times, getting to enjoy the taste of obtaining and utilizing currency.

This resolution is effective until the end of 1990 and we hope that, in contrast to last year, agricultural enterprises will be engaged more actively in selling grain to the state.

[Gradov] What currency resources are allotted to purchase grain abroad and in our own country?

[Klimov] The purchase of grain and oil seeds from kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises is effected by reducing imports and using currency funds allocated for importing grain from abroad. In other words, the "Eksportkhleb" All-Union Foreign Trade Association will pay for grain and oil seed yield without limitation if the terms of USSR Council of Ministers Resolution No. 620 are met. Thus, the more our farms sell, the less we will purchase from abroad.

We do not discuss the issue of currency amounts allocated for the purchase of grain abroad until a purchase is completed, since this constitutes a trade secret. And only next year will we be able to provide information as to the volume of our 1990 imports.

I will state for information purposes that, over the months of 1990 which have already transpired, the price of wheat on the world market has dropped significantly. Today American and European wheat may be purchased at the port of loading at a price of 80-85 foreign-exchange rubles per ton.

Militia Official on Combating Economic Crime

PM0405085190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 90 Second Edition p 3

[Interview in Moscow with K. Belin, chief of the Moscow Oblispolkom Main Internal Affairs Administration, by G. Ovcharenko under the "You Wrote Us" rubric; date not indicated; first two paragraphs are reader's letter: "Speculator Trap"]

[Text] Much has been written about the "shadow" economy of late. Scientists say that dealers in the "shadow" economy are rolling in money—tens of millions of rubles. The question of global measures to combat underworld bosses is on the agenda. But I reason thus: The "shadow" economy starts with basic speculation. And I do not base myself upon hearsay here: Even in our Moscow Oblast you can buy anything "under the counter" while there is nothing in the stores. So I think that we will root out the criminal millionaires wherever we do away with ordinary speculation. But are we combating this properly at local level?
[Signed] V. Berezov

Moscow—I began my conversation with K. Belin, chief of the Moscow Oblispolkom [oblast soviet executive committee] Main Internal Affairs Administration, with this letter.

[Belin] I agree that the "businessmen" are perceptibly stepping up their criminal activity. But I do not think that this is because of the inactivity of law-enforcement agencies. Over the last 5 years the number of crimes for personal gain detected in Moscow Oblast by the BkhSS [Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation] services has risen annually. Compared with last year, the cases of speculation detected rose, for example, by 34 percent and those of contravention of trade regulations by 60 percent. The traps we set for speculators do not stand empty. Nevertheless we cannot speak of a radical breakthrough in the fight against crimes for personal gain.

[Ovcharenko] Obviously, this is above all simply because the penalties are ineffective.

[Belin] True. In many countries where there is a healthy economy and the store counters creak under the weight of goods there is no concept of "speculation" at all. Speculation is the product of shortages, and organized crime—which for its part is interested in deliberately creating more and more new shortages—thrives in this environment. The "new wave" of business criminals actively exploits for personal gain gaps in legislation and in the legal regulation of modern forms of economic life.

[Ovcharenko] For example?

[Belin] There are as many examples as you like. Here's one. Accounting errors and basic negligence on the part of officials were exploited by a criminal group at the Shchelkovskiy precious metals recycling plant. With the full connivance of the administration the thieves were successful in removing 40.9 kg of metal worth more than R80,000. And it was only when an attempt was made to sell it that one of them was arrested and the whole group then exposed.

[Ovcharenko] Negligence, carelessness, and bungling.... But are they always the result of lack of intelligence or competence? Or is there yet another screen which shelters the more serious crimes?

[Belin] There is. For example, V. Mokina, chairman of the auditing commission, and T. Susina, a commission member, "failed to notice" an omission by G. Shvartsbruk, chief accountant of the "Nara" Sovkhoz-Workers Cooperative. It turned out that their eyes had been "closed" by a bribe. There are quite a few such cases.

[Ovcharenko] In our view, the emergence of cooperatives and the opportunity for establishing direct economic contacts with foreign firms are giving rise to a new kind of operator.

[Belin] Yes, and they skillfully exploit any loopholes in the law. This January A. Antonov, chief of the Ministry of the Aviation Industry's Stupinskiy metallurgical combine supply department, and his deputies, V. Antipov and G. Dobrynin, made truly titanic efforts to sell 176 tonnes of titanium—a strategic metal. The transaction was carried out in criminal collusion with the leaders of Moscow's "Argus" cooperative, which comes under the USSR Academy of Sciences Administration of Affairs Housing Services Administration, through the agency of the management of the "Potrebkooperatsiya" pavilion at the All-Union Exhibition of National Economic Achievements. They tried to transport the metal across the border. Some R65,000 was received in the form of bribes by the Stupinskiy metalworkers, while their accomplices—the officials of the "Potrebkooperatsiya" pavilion—received R35,000. If this action had succeeded, it would have cost the state R1.5 million. But thanks to prompt and skillful work by the OBKhSS [Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation Department], the attempt to export the titanium, which had already been turned into filings, was thwarted.

Not only ultrastrong titanium, but also "soft wear," as fur used to be called in the time of Stepan Razin, has been stolen and sold. Dealers paid more than R110,000 to take away 1,838 mink skins from the "Pushkinskiy" Fur Sovkhoz, which they then sold in Kharkov at a profit of around R200,000. In total in the first two months of this year crime perpetrated by officials and economic crime was 16.4 percent up on the same period last year.

[Ovcharenko] Many readers, including those from the Moscow region, complain that with the emergence of cooperatives many goods and products have disappeared from the stores. Do the Moscow Oblispolkom Main Internal Affairs Administration figures bear this out?

[Belin] There is a measure of truth in it. I am not a rabid adversary of cooperatives, but I do consider that it is time, nevertheless, to put them in order. People are not going to be pleased, say, to hear that in March the director of a "Stroymaterialy" store sold a cooperative—in exchange for a bribe of R20,000—300 power units intended for disabled war veterans and suppliers of agricultural produce, are they?! Cooperatives likewise buy up wholesale meat, butter, cloth in the state trade network.... There is no proper banking control here. You get the impression that the managers of many banks are completely uninterested in whom they grant loans to and how they will be cleared. Should one be surprised that Kalantaryan, chairman of the "Shelbutovo" cooperative, having obtained a loan of R400,000 with the customary ease, then went on the lam!

Cases of concealment of income—the tax on which amounted to R200,000!—were detected as a result of just two checks on cooperatives in Naro-Fominskiy Rayon and Kaliningrad. There is no need for surprise: It was, after all, for receiving bribes of R4,000 from the chairman of the "Argo" cooperative that S. Kostikov, auditing inspector of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Finance Ministry Control and Auditing Administration, was arrested.

[Ovcharenko] What are the prospects in combating crimes for personal gain?

[Belin] My colleagues and I are doing as much as we possibly can in our work to expose and neutralize organized speculators and everyone implicated in speculation. But our efforts alone are not enough. Let me repeat myself: A healthy society needs a healthy economy. That is the first thing. Second, legislation dictated by the criminal situation is essential. At present our laws either "rush" ahead, displaying undue humanity toward criminals, which infringes upon the rights of the victims, or lag hopelessly behind, failing to keep up with the ever-changing, chameleon nature of crime. And third and finally, we really need a comprehensive nationwide program to combat crime which envisages, among other things, the strengthening of the law-enforcement agencies' material and technical base. These are the three conditions which could, if implemented, bring real improvements in the fight against crime.

[Ovcharenko] Konstantin Maksimovich, you were recently elected an RSFSR people's deputy....

[Belin] I think that the vote of confidence was not just in me, but in the militia as a whole, whose prestige is reviving. I hope to vindicate this confidence by action.

Military

Zaykov Visit to Western Group of Forces Reported

PM0805111990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 90 Second Edition p 6

[Special correspondent V. Izgarshev dispatch: "We Serve the Fatherland"]

[Text] Berlin 6 May—Some 45 years ago the last salvoes of the war—the most brutal in man's history—boomed out here, in the very heart of Europe. A Soviet soldier in ravaged Berlin put the final touch to the peoples' verdict on fascism. The victors' sons and grandsons—the troops of the Western Group of Forces, whose existence dates from our victory—now serve on this territory. They worthily continue the combat traditions and reliably guard the homeland out beyond the border guard posts.

The members of the group of forces are greeting the glorious victory jubilee in good spirits. Veterans and war heroes from the same regiments as the present soldiers are arriving. The events of the last few months have considerably changed relations between European countries and peoples. German unification processes are developing. But an atmosphere of calm and confidence reigns within the group of Soviet forces and normal combat training is in progress. Soviet soldiers always have one task, one mission—to loyally serve the fatherland, the people, and the cause of peace. This is being discussed in a frank and soldierly manner at numerous large meetings between war veterans and the group's personnel.

As already announced, L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo and CPSU Central Committee secretary, has been visiting the group at this time. During meetings with him soldiers unanimously voiced support for our party's course and pointed out that the development of democracy and glasnost urgently necessitate the strengthening of order and organization.

There was a meeting at group headquarters with the Military Council. Army General B.V. Snetkov, commander in chief, and Colonel General A.N. Kolinichenko, member of the Military Council and chief of the

Political Directorate, delivered a report on the military-political situation in the region and the results of the winter period of troop training, noting that the level of troops' operational-tactical training, arms, and technical equipment reliably ensures their fulfillment of all their tasks.

L.N. Zaykov took part in and addressed a party conference at one of the group's formations. He gave a detailed description of party domestic and foreign policy at the present stage of perestroyka, particularly singling out the tasks of preparing for the 28th CPSU Congress that stem from the CPSU Central Committee platform. The conference delegates stressed that all army communists are firmly committed to the CPSU Central Committee Platform and wholly and completely share the ideas voiced in the party Central Committee Open Letter.

L.N. Zaykov was accompanied in the Western Group of Forces by Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. L.N. Zaykov returned to Moscow 6 May.

Spring Draft Evasion Shows Need for Army Reform

PM0805153990 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 May 90 p 1

[Ye. Zhirnov commentary: "Draft Delayed. The USSR Council of Ministers Has Decided To Postpone the Spring Draft for a Month"]

[Text] Army defeats do not always occur in a war. It is no exaggeration to say that ours, for example, is on the brink of moral "encirclement." The Afghan syndrome and the forced withdrawal from East Europe have certainly not done anything to enhance its prestige. The future of troops stationed in the Baltic republics is also an imponderable at the moment.

The army's position in society, stable for decades, is now in a state of disequilibrium, and the number one question for it at the moment is the spring draft. This year it has been postponed for a month. What will this do—give extra time for better training or postpone the solution of an awkward question?

This issue was discussed at a session of the Main Military Prosecutor's Office collegium. The overall picture of the results of a check on the implementation of the "Law on the General Compulsory Military Service" is little consolation.

In 1989, in contrast to the previous year, the draft plan was not fulfilled; moreover around four percent of the new recruits were of limited suitability for service. There was a sixfold increase in draft evasion and 451 soldiers refused to take the oath for religious reasons.

It is an alarming fact also that the number of soldiers discharged for health reasons in the first three months of service increased by nearly one-third. The number of people coming before the commission has now reached 10,000 per year.

What is the reason for this? Are the young conscripts sick? Judging by the editorial mailbag, yes, they are! Evidently no improvement in the work of military commissariats' medical commissions can be expected. Economic accountability in the health service is hitting the Defense Ministry hard in its pocket. It now has to pay for doctors' and nurses' work. The Latvian Health Ministry alone is asking for R450,000. What is the solution? What guarantee is there that more than 300,000 adolescents attending psychoneurological clinics will not be wielding weapons in one or two years' time?

There are also serious problems in training for service. How many times has it been said that the system of initial military training currently in operation, or, rather, not in operation, needs to be radically transformed. There are no facilities. In "hot spots" and areas very close to them all weapons have been confiscated and there are no summer camps. Are we left with only drilling and singing? And what about the teachers? Some 11,000 are reserve privates or sergeants, 6,500 are over 60, and 3,500 did not actually serve in the army themselves. Only one out of all the schools checked in the country got a mark of "good" for initial military training....

Is that all there is too it? Draft dodgers are not being brought to book and Supreme Soviets in the Baltic and in Georgia have adopted their own legislation on military service that does not correspond to the USSR Constitution. These measures have appreciable support from mothers and fathers who are protecting their sons from military service, which is now unpopular.

You do not have to look far for examples. The Uzbek Supreme Soviet recently discussed questions connected with its conscripts' service and put serious proposals to union organs. And it had very good reason—more than 500 soldiers from the republic perished last year and 63 have already been killed this year. Will it be much easier for families if they are promptly informed of the cause of death? I doubt it....

Conscripts no longer want to serve in military construction units, in fact the military prosecutor's office itself is fighting for their elimination. Where is the logic in that?

Should the conscripts be blamed for all the difficulties, when more than two dozen orders by the defense minister and directives by the General Staff on bringing the Armed Forces up to strength are causing confusion. And procedures in some military commissariats have not been checked for five or six years!

It is time to face up to reality: The prosecutor's office, even the military prosecutor's office, is not capable of shoring up an army edifice that lacks a legal foundation. The "Law on Compulsory General Military Service" is hopelessly out of date. The legislator—the USSR Supreme Soviet—is in no hurry, for some reason. Will it take a resounding draft failure for people to realize that only radical reforms can help the army?

Officials Bemoan Draft Dodging, Unhealthy Recruits

PM0805095990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by V. Litovkin under the "From Authoritative Sources" rubric: "Not Only About The Draft"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the Main Military Prosecutor's Office collegium has been held in Moscow. It examined the question "On the state of and measures to step up prosecutor's office supervision of the implementation of the USSR Law 'On the General Obligation to Military Service' and legislation on the training of young people for service in the Armed Forces." USSR people's deputies and representatives of ministries and departments participated in its work.

An analysis of the materials shows that the work of local management organs and military commissariats is taking place in an atmosphere of sharply increased anti-Army and pacificist sentiments and deteriorating interethnic relations.

In some parts of the country these processes are accompanied by illegal actions, such as impeding military commissariats' activities, curtailing draft commissions' work, and delaying the dispatch of conscripts to the forces....

In the country as a whole 6,647 citizens evaded the regular draft in 1989 (1,044 in 1988). That is, a sixfold increase. The increase has been particularly dramatic in the Leningrad Military District [MD] (18 times greater than the previous year); in the Baltic MD (24 times greater), in the Carpathian MD (10 times greater), in the Kiev MD (23 times greater), in the Turkestan MD (3.5 times greater), and in the Volga-Urals MD (25 times greater). Territorial law-enforcement organs are supine when it comes to searching for draft-dodgers and often fail to take criminal action against them.

A further problem is the fact that the younger generation is in extremely poor condition in terms of a whole range of physical and medical indicators. Overall morbidity among conscripts increased by 29 percent in 1988 compared with 1981. There are more than 300,000 adolescents aged between 15 and 17 currently registered with health organs as having serious psychological problems. And they are not only future troops, but future working people.

According to specialists, the main reasons are an increase in the number of people with congenital mental or physical development defects, the unbridled growth of alcoholism and drug addiction, the absence of normal health and hygiene conditions in children's preschool establishments and schools, and inadequate physical education and sports lessons for adolescents.

Military Denies Destroying BAM Zone Camp

PM0405140590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 2 May 90 Second Edition p4

[Correspondent Major A. Vorobyev article: "The Chief Thing is To Strike a Match. How MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI Made a Sensation"]

[Text] "Officers brought a bucket of gasoline and splashed it onto a wall, and the general himself struck a match. This was how the military camp in Amur Oblast's Verkhnezeysk settlement ceased to exist...." These lines are taken from the report "Burning Farewell to BAM [Baykal-Amur Main Railroad]," published in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI No. 17. It also described other abuses by General Nikolay Kovalev and his subordinates, who barbarously destroyed public property and equipment.

The report gives rise to natural indignation. We tried to secure an explanation from Gen. Nikolay Kovalev himself. But... "We never have had and do not now have such a general," it was explained to me at the Railroad Troops Political Directorate.

...And yet I tracked down Nikolay Kovalev. He turned out to be Lieutenant Colonel N. Kovalev, commander of a railroad unit. Nikolay Ivanovich categorically took exception to the actions ascribed to him.

This is how Lieutenant General A. Stolyarov, chief of the Railroad Troops Political Directorate, commented on the MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI report:

"Soldiers have put into permanent operation almost 1,500 km of BAM. This is the stretch from Tynda to Komsomolsk-na-Amure with a multitude of projects: schools, kindergartens, housing. Some of our units are now leaving. We have handed over eight camps to the Tynda section of the railroad and to the No. 706 construction and installation train. To a total value of R340,200. In Verkhnezeysk, which is mentioned in the report, we have sold components and structures worth R16,000. Not one of the camps has been eliminated using 'barbarous' methods.

"There are camps on BAM which have served out their prescribed times and which the local authorities refuse to accept because of their dilapidated state. We have to eliminate them in accordance with a decision of a special commission of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers Presidium. But even in this case property is written off in the prescribed manner and is dismantled in order to recultivate the plots and hand them over to the local authorities.

"The instance of the destruction of equipment does not tally with reality either.

"Of course, we do have our shortcomings, but it does no newspaper credit, to say the least, to accuse us of something that did not happen."

MPD Resolution on Army Political Work Viewed

PM0805122190 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 May 90 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "To Accelerate the Processes of Renewal. In the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate"]

[Text] The Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate [MPD] Bureau heard a report by Lieutenant General V. Sharygin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Kiev Military District Political Directorate, about the Political Directorate's organizational and political work in preparation for the 28th CPSU Congress and the report and election campaign in party organizations.

The report and speeches noted the multifarious activity of political organs and party organizations to fulfill the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February and March (1990) plenums. Communists and personnel in the district are engaged in a keen discussion of the draft CPSU Central Committee platform for the 28th CPSU Congress and the draft CPSU Statute. In parallel with study periods within the political education system, there are widespread roundtable discussions and debates and collective deliberations on the most topical problems of the party's political strategy and tactics at the present stage of perestroyka and the renewal of intraparty relations.

Expressing overall approval for the precongress documents, communists at the same time submit proposals, most of which are businesslike and constructive, aimed at rallying the party ranks, boosting the party's prestige and vanguard role in society, and ensuring the organizational-political consolidation of army party organizations.

Report and election meetings in primary party organizations were held in an organized fashion, in an atmosphere of frankness and exactingness. Communists displayed lofty demandingness toward party committees and bureaus as regards restructuring the contents of methods of party work, cleansing it of formalism, and bringing it more closely in line with real life, the processes in the forces' sociopolitical life, and the personnel's moods.

Elected party organs were constituted in a new democratic atmosphere. More than 70 percent of party committee secretaries and bureaus were elected on a multicandidate basis by direct secret ballot with all meeting participants voting. For the first time, primary party organizations compiled lists of candidate delegates for party conferences and for the Ukrainian Communist Party and CPSU congresses.

The precongress work also stimulates the activeness of party organizations and communists in performing the tasks of the winter training period. The district achieved positive results in the implementation of all events concerning operational and combat training and the inspection of the training center, with positive trends in the strengthening of military discipline being maintained and opportunities to improve the troops' daily life being sought.

At the same time, the bureau sitting noted, not all political organs and party organizations have succeeded in abandoning formal attitudes toward precongress work. Superficial familiarity with the draft platform and CPSU Statutes produced superficial discussions, and at times even poorly argued copycat criticism. Some communists are evidently poorly informed on fundamental questions of the contemporary political process in society, the disposition of political forces in the party, the prospects of military reform, and the future of political organs and party organizations in the Armed Forces.

Party committee and party bureau reports often lacked a proper analysis of the perestroyka of party organizations' organizational-party work and ideological life, of the party aktiv's mastery of political methods for influencing combat readiness, the quality of combat training, and the improvement of organization and discipline.

Some political organs are slow in summing up and organizing the examination of Communists' suggestions and critical remarks on questions whose solution is within the district's powers.

The resolution adopted by the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate Bureau makes it mandatory for political directorates of branches of the Armed Forces, military districts, groups of forces, and fleets and for political organs under central jurisdiction to comprehensively analyze the course of preparations for the 28th CPSU Congress and the organizational and political results of report and election meetings, and to take into account the conclusions and lessons for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of precongress work and the report and election campaign.

Attention was drawn to the need for more active participation by members of military councils and command and political leadership cadres in preparations for and the work of party conferences, for ensuring efficient operations by the mechanism for considering and monitoring the implementation of communists' suggestions and critical remarks.

Emphasis was placed on the need for a responsible approach toward the composition of the corps of delegates to union republic communist party congresses and the 28th CPSU Congress, who would merit unconditional trust by party organizations and would be capable of upholding the unity of party forces and consolidating them on the CPSU Central Committee platform. The political image of each candidate delegate and his party stance must be the topic of open and principled discussion.

Political organs are instructed to painstakingly prepare and hold rallies and seminars for the renewed party aktiv. It is necessary to organize a detailed exchange of experience in the way party committees and bureaus master the political methods of work and democratize intraparty relations. Meetings of party organization secretaries and military council members must be held on topical questions of life and combat training, of strengthening discipline and rallying the personnel.

A key task of the precongress period is to build up and deepen the work on discussing the draft CPSU platform and statute and the CPSU Central Committee open letter to the country's communists. It is necessary to make full use of these documents' political potential in order to intensify ideological work and give a topical content to party organizations' ideological life. Specific measures must be taken to improve the availability of information to communists and their ability to use sound arguments to repulse antiparty and anti-Army moods and actions and to expose political demagoguery. This work must make extensive use of the appraisal of the Armed Forces and their development prospects contained in M.S. Gorbachev's speech at his meeting with Nizhniy Tagil working people's representatives and the USSR Law "On Pension Provisions for Servicemen." The entire personnel must be promptly informed about the main avenues of military reform and the elaboration of the government program for servicemen's social security, the draft Law on Defense, and other legislative acts.

The editorial offices of the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, the journal KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL, and of military district, group, and fleet newspapers are instructed to ensure systematic coverage of the experience of army and navy political organs and party organizations in preparation for the 28th CPSU Congress and to publish material covering party conferences, congress delegates, the progress in fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee February and March (1990) plenums, and the conclusions outlined in the CPSU Central Committee open letter to the country's communists "For Consolidation on a Principled Basis."

Baltic Republics

Victory Day Military Parade Staged in Vilnius

LD0905102390 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 9 May 90

[Excerpts] [Presenter Jurate Valanciute] Some people are working today. Other people who have been fighting, hoping to be free, are celebrating Victory Day. Let us listen to a report from where this is being celebrated.

[Unidentified correspondent] [passage omitted] Vilnius, Gedimino Prospektas. All entries to the main street in Vilnius are blocked by military vehicles. Armed paratroppers wearing bullet-proof vests are standing on the sidewalks. There are elderly war and labor veterans, relatives of servicemen, their friends and representatives of the Lithuanian Communist Party affiliated with the CPSU, and members of Yedinstvo.

A military parade marking the 45th anniversary of the victory over fascism started at 1000 [0700 GMT]. The parade started and servicemen were greeted by Maj. Gen. (Podkhobchik), commander of the Vilnius military garrison. He noted in his speech that perestroyka is at a critical stage, that attacks on the CPSU and the Army have become more frequent.

Columns marched past and those present greeted the airborne forces especially warmly. Then military armored vehicles, vehicles carrying anti-aircraft missiles, and other equipment shook the pavement of the street.

After the military parade, war veterans, representatives of Yedinstvo, leaders of the Lithuanian Communist Party-CPSU, and their supporters walked along the street. Demonstration participants carried several CPSU flags and sang war songs. There were no incidents on Gedimino Prospektas. There were few onlookers. At noon a ceremony took place at the Vilnius military cemetery where those killed during the Great Patriotic War were honored.

[Valanciute] The 45th victory anniversary was celebrated in this way in Vilnius. Similar celebrations took place in Kaunas, Klaipeda, Siauliai, and other Lithuanian cities. This is the first time we have not celebrated Victory Day. This year a military parade was staged for the first time in Vilnius, and military equipment was on show. In the past there used to only be meetings of veterans who took part in the Great Patriotic War, solemn ceremonies at military cemetries, and martial music by brass bands. The same happened last year, too.

Vilnius Radio Carries 8 May Supreme Council

Amnesty Law Debated

LD0805080690

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian at 0700 GMT on 8 May begins carrying a live relay of the Lithuanian Supreme Council session in Vilnius. The session is chaired by Deputy Abisalas.

At 0705 GMT debates on the agenda begin. A proposal is submitted that the session adopt a declaration about the persecution of Jews in Lithuania during the last war. It is proposed to include this item on the agenda. It is decided to distribute the text of this declaration among the deputies and then discuss it.

At 0710 GMT a vote is taken in favor of including the adoption of ths declaration on the agenda.

At 0711 GMT debate on the agenda begins. It is decided that the 8 May agenda will include the Amnesty Law, the Law on Enterprisees, the Radio and Television Statute, the Declaration on Genocide, and an appeal to the USSR Supreme Soviet on the attack on Deputy Vaisvila during the Army occupation of buildings in Vilnius.

At 0720 GMT Deputy Jonas Prapiestis submits a report on the draft amnesty law, describing various amendments to be introduced in individual articles.

At 0738 GMT debate on individual articles in the draft law begins.

Amnesty Law Adopted

LD0805084490

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian at 0745 GMT on 8 May continues its live relay of the Lithuanian Supreme Council session in Vilnius.

Debates on the draft amnesty law continue.

At 0755 GMT a vote is taken on individual articles in the draft law. A dispute arises over the fourth article providing for a reduction of sentences to pregnant women and women with babies.

At 0820 GMT a vote is taken on other individual articles in the draft law. A heated debate takes place on whether amnesty should be applied to intoxicated drivers causing accidents.

At 0823 GMT Deputy Prapiestis reads all amendments to individual articles.

At 0827 GMT a vote is taken on a decision that the republican amnesty law be applied. It is adopted by a majority of votes.

At 0828 GMT Deputy Stanislovas Ilgunas announces that the first volume of the Lithuanian Encyclopaedia has been sent from the United States and is going to be presented to the Supreme Council library. It is presented by a Lithuanian woman who recently returned from a visit to the United States.

At 0831 GMT the session is adjourned until 1200 GMT.

Law on Enterprises Debated

LD0805133790

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian at 1200 GMT on 8 May continues its live relay of the Lithuanian Supreme Council session in Vilnius.

Deputy Abisalas is in the chair.

At 1201 GMT a report on the draft law on enterprises is made. The speaker says that due to a shortage of paper the copies of the law could not be distributed to the deputies, but they have had an opportunity to get acquainted with copies placed in the Supreme Council building. He briefly describes each article in the draft law and answers questions. The draft law covers state enterprises, local government enterprises, and joint stock companies, and also private enterprises.

At 1240 GMT a lengthy debate ensues about permits for solicitors wishing to establish their offices. Lawyers among the deputies are urged to take steps to ensure that no article is introduced in the law allowing the establishment of quack solicitors' offices.

At 1259 GMT the debate continues. Amendments to individual articles in the draft law are proposed.

At 1308 GMT a proposal is put forward that this law should come into force on 1 July, after other laws concerning enterprises are passed.

At 1319 GMT the debate continues and once again some individual articles in the draft law were discussed.

At 1320 GMT questions about the reregistration of cooperatives after this law is passed are asked.

At 1324 GMT Deputy Abisalas announces that there was no quorum.

At 1325 GMT the session is adjourned until 1355 GMT.

Appeal on Victory Day Parade Read

LD0805183490

[Editorial Report] Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian at 1355 GMT on 8 May resumes its live relay of the Lithuanian Supreme Council session in Vilnius.

A draft statement to the USSR Supreme Soviet on the beating of Deputy Vaisvila is read. It is still to be adopted.

At 1402 GMT Deputy Abisalas asked that questions and remarks on this statement be made personally to the initiator of the statement.

At 1403 GMT it is stated that there is no quorum and therefore the vote on the draft law on enterprises cannot be taken.

At 1404 GMT the deputy in the chair states that there are 90 deputies in the hall. Therefore debates on the television statute should take place, and voting on the previous draft law will be taken later.

At 1406 GMT Deputy Ilgunas states that Sniukas has been proposed to the post of general director of television. Then a report on the television statute is made. It is stated that the structure of television should be changed and some kind of competition should be introduced. The depoliticization of television and radio has to take place. The present resolution on television and radio broadcasting is only temporary, whereas the television statute should cope with permanent long-term tasks.

At 1444 GMT a proposal is made that this statute should be examined in the commissions and then returned for debates at a plenary sitting. Various minor amendments are proposed.

At 1506 GMT some questions are raised about the draft law on enterprises.

At 1513 GMT a vote is taken on the draft law on enterprises. It is passed by a majority of votes.

At 1515 GMT a vote is taken on when the law should come into force.

At 1518 GMT proposals on amendments to the statement on Vaisvila are made.

At 1527 GMT a deputy reads an appeal to the Lithuanian people about tomorrow's military parade. He says that during tomorrow's military parade there might be some disturbances, some young people might try to lie down in front of armored vehicles, stop the parade, and so on. He proposes that the Supreme Council adopt the following appeal which should be televised tonight:

"Dear people of Lithuania. Tomorrow, on 9 May the Soviet Union celebrates Victory Day. Although the Lithuanians had to fight against brown fascism and thousands of men lost their lives, the victory of 1945 did not bring our homeland either peace or liberation. For a whole decade an unequal partisan struggle against bolshevism took place in Lithuania.

"We already know from experience that military equipment and armored vehicles are shaking the streets of Vilnius—and not only on 9 May. For us this parade is an everyday occurence. Therefore we appeal to you: we are and let us remain restrained, indifferent to any show of military strength. Tomorrow we would better stay at home, at work, or in our gardens. Let us not interfere with the soldiers' march. Empty streets, calm, and restraint of people in blockaded Lithuania and nonparticipation wherever various provocations are possible will be the most suitable and eloquent way to demonstrate that we were still very far from victory on 9 May 1945."

This appeal is adopted with applause.

At 1531 GMT deputy Nikolajus Medvedevas makes the following statement:

"Yesterday I visited General Kuzmin, accompanied by Butkevicius. There we discussed tomorrow's parade. It was decided that tomorrow there will be no public transport [word indistinct] in Vilnius. There will be no demonstrations or displays by paratroopers. I would like to say that he received us in a rather pleasant manner to discuss this problem. It was agreed that we will not interfere with their parade tomorrow. If they want to waste gasoline on this parade, we have nothing against it. There will no quarrel. And they will not interfere with our affairs."

At 1534 GMT minor amendments are made to the declaration on the genocide of the Jews.

At 1540 GMT the deputies decide to adopt the declaration next Thursday.

At 1543 GMT it is decided that the commissions will meet tomorrow. There will be no plenary sitting. The next plenary sitting will be Thursday.

Lithuanian Supreme Council Adopts Amnesty Law

LD0805173490 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 8 May 90

[By TASS correspondent Serafim Bykhun]

[Text] Vilnius May 8 TASS—The Lithuanian Supreme Soviet session today adopted a law on amnesty in view of the restoration of the republic's independence.

Under the provisions of the law, the amnesty applies to those citizens who were convicted before March 11, 1990, i.e., before the republican parliament adopted the act of restoration of the independent Lithuanian state.

This is an amensty for the first offenders convicted for committing not particularly grave crimes. This category includes minors, invalids of the first and second degree, and men above 60 years of age.

Today the deputies of the Lithuanian parliament also discussed a bill on enterprises and a draft statute of republican radio and television.

Supreme Council Adopts Law on Enterprises

LD0805211190 Moscow TASS in English 2013 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Vilnius May 8 ELTA-TASS—The Lithuanian Supreme Soviet session today adopted a law on enterprises. The law envisages that individual-operated enterprises, economic associations, joint-stock societies as well as departmental, independent or share-holding state-run enterprises may operate in the republic.

They have a right to engage in any economic or other actvities that are not limited by laws. For some types of activity it is necessary to get permission from the Lithianian government or a local government body.

Physical and legal persons from other countries should get Lithuanian government permission to carry out any activity on the republic's territory.

There is no need for such permission for persons from other countries who express a desire to acquire the shares of a joint-stock society or a closed joint-stock company.

Supreme Council Protests Attack on Deputy

LD0905100190 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1355 GMT 8 May 90

[Draft statement read out by unidentified deputy at Lithuanian Supreme Council session in Vilnius—live relay]

[Excerpt] A statement by the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania to the USSR Supreme Soviet about acts of violence against Deputy Zigmas Vaisvila:

The revolution of the republican Supreme Council of 4 April 1990 provided for civil protection of important state property and the maintenance of public order. Implementing this resolution, 50 volunteers arrived for duty at 1015 on 20 April 1990 at the workshop producing magazines of the Lithuanian Spauda publishing house and the editorial offices of the SVYTURYS, MOTERIS and others, situated in Vilnius at 1 Maironio Gatve.

Two hours later Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov arrived at the premises of the control station there, announcing the number of his military unit. Somewhat later Colonel of Interior Troops Mironenko, accompanied by a servicemen wearing a major's uniform, whose name is so far unknown, arrived. At that time Zigmas Vaisvila, USSR people's deputy and deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, was visiting the control station. He identified himself as a USSR people's deputy and explained the purpose of the volunteers' presence there. But Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov demanded that the volunteers leave the premises. When it was explained to him that such a request should be aapproved by the republican Supreme Council, Fedorov summoned soldiers by telephone. They arrived at 1300 in two trucks. The soldiers were armed with truncheons and carried gas containers.

On Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov's command "Beat them and throw them out" soldiers started beating people with rubber truncheons and kicking them. Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov ordered the soldiers to beat not only the volunteers, but also USSR People's Deputy and Deputy of the Lithuanian Supreme Council Zigmas Vaisvila. During this incident Deputy Zigmas Vaisvila was injured and his clothes were torn. Violence was used against the deputy, the volunteers, and women in front of a crowd of people. The following injuries were established to occur to Deputy Zigmas Vaisvila at the neurosurgical section of the Vilnius city first clinical hospital: [deputy reads passage in Latin]. Deputy Zigmas Vaisvila suffered rather serious injury. His treatment continues.

On the orders of Lieutenant Colonel Fedorov, the soldiers grossly violated the rights and immunity of the USSR people's deputy and deputy of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania. They commited a crime under Article 118 of the criminal code of the Republic of Lithuania providing for responsibility for a rather serious injury. The Supreme Council of the republic requests:

1. The USSR peoples deputies to assess and condemn this incident.

2. The USSR minister of defense to hold the culprits to criminal and disciplinary account.

3. Measures be adopted to ensure that acts of provocation and violence by the Armed Forces are not repeated in the future.

Lithuania Announces Sanctions Against USSR

PM0805151390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 90 Morning Edition p 3

[Dispatch by correspondent Leonid Kapelyushnyy under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Lithuania Announces Sanctions"]

[Text] Vilnius—Following a four-hour sitting, the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Antiblockade Commission adopted a decision to introduce economic sanctions against the USSR by imposing a 10-percent reduction of meat and milk deliveries to Union stocks.

It must be said for fairness sake that Lithuania's share in building up the Union food stocks was considerable. With just over one percent of arable lands, the republic supplied about 10 percent of meat and milk. True enough, Lithuanian stock units received a generous measure of mixed feeds in exchange for these deliveries.

Even though government communiques on the state of the republic's economy contain more optimism than alarm, I would nonetheless dare to voice the suspicion that Lithuania decided to exchange "blow for blow" in conditions when it has nothing to lose. Cattle shin bones and hog heads are the sole reminders of recent meat varieties in the capital's food stores. Chickens have ceased laying eggs and cows have reduced their milk yields, evidently as a sign of protest against the USSR's economic embargo. Reduced deliveries to the Union will make it possible to add 2,000 tonnes of meat and dairy products to supplies for the republican market.

It was also decided to compile a list of strategic commodities being delivered to the USSR and to stop shipping them out. Approval was given to a proposal by the Ministry of Finance and the republican bank to issue interest-bearing Lithuanian republic state bonds, the acquisition of which will help them gain independence.

I shall mention just two routine news items, which would have gone unnoticed previously. Karl Habsburg, from the well-known Habsburg clan, arrived in Lithuania as one of "Pan-Europe's" leaders, and did not do so empty-handed—he brought along medical equipment and medicines for children. Nor did guests from Estonia arrive empty-handed in Zarasayskiy Rayon—their gift also has its price in today's terms. It was 12 tonnes of gasoline.... In both cases, commentators say, this represents political rather than material support.

Living through times which cannot be described as the best possible, Lithuania announced a decision to offer summer vacations to children from Ukranian and Belorussian Rayons who suffered during the Chernobyl disaster.

Participants in Lithuanian Conference Denied Visas

LD0905095690 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 8 May 90

[Summary] The Lithuanian Writers' Union has commented on the preparation for the first conference of world Lithuanian writers. It is scheduled for 2-24 May in Anyksciai, and 75 Lithuanian writers residing abroad have been invited. But the guests cannot obtain visas from the Soviet Union.

An international conference, "The Baltic Family," which should have taken place in Kaunas, has also been postponed. Ministers, ambassadors, and rectors of high schools from Scandinavia, West Europe, Canada, and the United States were to attend the conference.

Another conference, "Higher Education in Lithuania and Prospects for the Next Decade" which was to be held in Klaipeda, has also been postponed because the participants have not been granted visas.

Lithuania Issues Statement on Supplies, Contacts

LD0805183390 Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 7 May 90

[Text] In April, despite centralized agreements, the Soviet Union failed to supply Lithuania with some 50 percent of nonferrous metals, 25 percent of paper, and almost completely stopped the supply of timber, (?Polyurethene) and polyethylene. As far as power resources are concerned today, on the 19th day of the blockade, (?the situation has not changed). This is stated in today's communique by the government on the republic's economic situation. But the supply of goods for the population from the Soviet Union over the weekend was normal.

While developing direct contacts with producers in the Soviet Union, progress was also made in establishing contacts with partners in Belorussia. Coordination of a mutual exchange at the government level was also agreed upon. In the opinion of the Lithuanian government, the communique states, it is essential to intensify the reconstruction of the economic branches, the need for which has emerged during the blockade, [passage indistinct].

No one in Lithuania is interfering with the Soviet Union's various ties with Kaliningrad Oblast. Apart from that, Lithuania strictly adheres to instructions regarding the proportion of gas supplied to Kalingrad under the conditions of the blockade. However, according to a tendentious TASS report, Kaliningrad is no longer receiving cement from Lithuania. It does not state that the Akmene cement works has substantially reduced its production because of a power shortage. TASS announced that Kaliningrad Oblast will be supplied with cement by other Soviet Union's enterprises.

More on Effects of Lithuanian Blockade

PM0805135790 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 8 May 90 p 2

[Dispatch by SELSKAYA ZHIZN correspondent N. Lashkevich under the "News From the Republics" rubric: "Lithuania: A Regime of Strict Savings"]

[Text] Vilnius—More than two weeks have passed since Lithuania started living on reduced fuel and energy rations. What are the preliminary results of this raw materials starvation? A rationing system is being introduced for the distribution of foodstuffs. Henceforth, a single resident of the republic will be able to purchase two kg of sugar, one kg of pasta, two kg of groats, two kg of flour, and 250 grams of margarine every two months. For a long time now, the most scarce industrial goods have been distributed by coupons through labor collectives. Delivery shortfalls of natural gas and raw and other materials for industry have forced a whole series of enterprises to curtail operations. The Mazeikiai refinery remains at a standstill. All of the republic's four sugar refineries are on the brink of stoppage—there are no raw materials. The number of unemployed passed the 10,000 mark just before May Day. About 35,000 are "planned" to be out of work in the next few days. Fuel stocks, provided they are distributed according to the currently prevailing regime, will last until 20 May. Restrictions were imposed on cash withdrawals from savings bank accounts from the beginning of this month. The Savings Bank now repays not more than R500 per depositor. While at the Post Office, where I went to collect my salary by money transfer from the editorial office, I inadvertently witnessed the practical implementation of the "innovation": A woman ahead of me did not receive cash for a money transfer of R300 from Gorkiy. But my salary was paid out...

Thus the results—even the preliminary ones—are lamentable. It is not hard to guess how the situation will develop in the future. One thing is perfectly clear: Things will not get better. It cannot be ruled out that fresh unpleasant surprises lie in store for the republic's residents, in the form of a more rigid savings regime, across-the-board introduction of rationing, and so on.

And how are things in agriculture? It appears that the situation there gives no cause for optimism, either. The complexities are primarily associated with material, technical, and fuel supplies. And yet, great hopes are now being pinned on the Lithuanian countryside. The Ministry of Agriculture was instructed to prepare a program creating conditions for citizens wishing to move to the countryside. Minister of Agriculture V. Knasis claims that voluntary work could be organized in the countryside.

There is a long list of "antiblockade" measures. They all give the appearance of emergency cosmetic repair jobs. As for capital repairs to the shaken edifice of the Lithuanian economy, they can be effected only under conditions of uninterrupted supplies of raw materials, fuel and energy resources, and other materials. This is where the strictly economic question instantaneously evolves into a political one. And whereas economists are literally tearing themselves apart trying as much as possible to break through the deadlock—they seem extremely realistically inclined in parliament, as a matter of fact—the "pure" politicians still maintain their Olympian calm and often think in highly romantic terms. But pragmatic attitudes will nonetheless shake the wall of simplistic romanticism.

The Lithuanian parliament reconvened following the recent break. It was expected that a certain political decision would finally be made. The expectations were justified to a certain extent. For example, V. Landsbergis' letter in reply to FRG Chancellor H. Kohl and French President F. Mitterrand contains the following words: "...We ask you to convey to the Soviet leadership our consent to discuss the idea of temporary suspension of the effects of all decisions adopted by the parliament of the sovereign Lithuanian Republic which the Soviet leadership finds undesirable." If truth be said, it is incomprehensible why this suggestion should be indirectly notified via H. Kohl and F. Mitterrand. Actually, logic makes it possible to guess: So as to involve two countries which enjoy great influence in the world in the debate on the "Lithuanian problem" and, by taking advantage of their prestige, to force the USSR into compromises. Something else is also "incomprehensible." Assuming that the act of 11 March cannot be repealed and that the fact of the proclamation of independence is inviolable and immutable, this would hardly offer a way out of the constitutional deadlock. After all, this fact is the "most undesirable" for the USSR. Consequently, even talks are hardly possible. An obvious contradiction....

The Lithuanian parliament has taken quite a few such contradictory steps. Frankly speaking, was it worth spending six weeks in session, debating and adopting laws only to "temporarily suspend" them afterwards? And what if the USSR does not agree on the term "temporarily" during talks which are theoretically possible? The talks which are so eagerly pursued by the republic (in the assumption that they would automatically result in a de facto recognition of an independent Lithuanian state) could end up being extremely painful for Lithuania. But they will produce no panacea. Seeing that Lithuania uniliterally proclaimed its independence, trying to dictate its will on the USSR, why should the

USSR not be entitled to adopt the selfsame methods and present Lithuania with other burdensome conditions? There are precedents, as the saying goes....

But while global problems are being resolved and while economic passions are on the boil, the average statistical resident (Lithuanian citizen and USSR citizen alike), regardless of nationality and political views, is also summing up the preliminary results, calculating his own losses, and taking his own "antiblockade" measures. The results are grievous. The losses are great. The measures are simple—buy everything that can still be bought. But what will happen afterwards?

Unemployment, Blockade Situation Updated

LD0905072590 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] The economic blockade of Lithuania continues. As is noted in today's communique of the Lithuanian government, some 13,000 people in Lithuania were forced to stay without work yesterday owing to the shortage of material and energetic [as heard] resources in industrial, transport, or building enterprises. In the countryside 6,500 drivers and farming machine operators also had to engage in jobs other than their professional ones.

With the continued shrinking of the resources, the Lithuanian government is trying to meet the vital and social needs of the population. The government antiblockade commission held its regular meeting today while the ministries and departments will issue new instructions as to how [to] soften the effects of the blockade.

Yesterday the Lithuanian government decided to cut by 10 percent its supplies of meat and dairy produce to the Soviet Union. Up to then, more than one-third of Lithuanian meat and dairy products were taken out of this country, the main addresses being Moscow and Leningrad. Lithuanian supplies amounted to one-fifth of the total needs of Moscow for meat and some 10 percent for dairy products. Lithuanian exports to the East mostly included frozen meat, as well as smoked meat products and tinned meat. Among the dairy produce, the main export was butter, more than 50 percent of the total Lithuanian production; also cheese and condensed milk.

The 10 percent cut of supplies to the Soviet Union is of course relative. As is known, foodstuffs were delivered to the so-called centralized fund. This actually let Moscow make the decision as to how and to whom to distribute the goods. The move of the Lithuanian government will mean in practice that the 10 percent cut of Lithuania's supplies of meat and dairy products to the centralized Soviet fund will be directly delivered to those Soviet enterprises which are ready to exchange the foodstuffs for raw materials and other production that Lithuania needs. There has so far been no practice of such direct exchange in the centralized Soviet economy. Now that [the] Lithuanian economy has started changing its structure, converting it into market relations, foodstuffs as well as some other goods turn into Lithuania's most important strategic production.

So, if the Lithuanian foodstuffs do not go to Moscow or Leningrad they can make their way to other towns of Russia, the Ukraine, and other Soviet republics. From these Lithuania will receive the vital raw materials which it used to get from the Soviet Union in a centralized way.

Yet there is one problem which might alarmingly change the state of things in this respect: The present resources of petrol and fuel oil are estimated to last us only 'til the end of May, and then all the enterprises producing butter and cheese, all meat processing factories and dairies, will be forced to stop. Besides, Lithuania uses 800,000 tonnes of grain to produce fodder, while the grain is imported by the Soviet Union from abroad: Moscow might cut the supplies of grain to Lithuania, which would result in the reduction of meat-produce here.

We already reported last week that the Soviet Union was going to resume its supplies of compressed gas to Lithuania, of which the Lithuanian government was informed by the Soviet Union gas department last Friday. We shall remind our listeners that the supply of gas to Lithuania was cut off on 27th March. News has reached us that 11 tank trucks with compressed gas left the Belorussian city of Polotsk and a town in the Leningrad district two days ago, while 10 more tank trucks were sent to Lithuania yesterday. Another 60 tank trucks are ready in Bashkyria, the south Urals, to be sent to Lithuania, yet the authorities of the railway station are still waiting for official permission of the all-Union department.

Article Assesses Current Lithuanian Situation

PM0405140190 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 4 May 9 p 1

[Report by correspondent V. Zarovskiy: "'A Fine Fellow, But a Communist.' Lithuania: What Now? The Agonizing Search for an Answer"]

[Text] The air is clean in Vilnius. Even during the day. You rarely see a private vehicle on the street. It is 30 liters of gas per motorist and 10 liters per motorcyclist per month. Some save their tanks for holidays, others—out of desperation—have been making a packet providing horse-drawn transport.

On 27 April all the local papers published the law "On Temporary Measures in Conditions of the USSR's Economic Blockade." The law is harsh, as the times require, according to parliament. It places restrictions on the dismissal of working people. Government representatives are being appointed to monitor the implementation of the measures mapped out by the government. There is a ban on taking food or raw materials outside Lithuania and on selling chattels and fixed production capital as property to individuals, cooperatives or private enterprises without government authorization. The law threatens gasoline speculators above all. A variety of punishments is stipulated: from a fine of R500 to R10,000 or three years in jail. The crooked "kings" of the gas stations and trade and public catering establishments (contravention of the rules of trade) are being dismissed without the prior agreement of the trade union committee.

But gasoline is being stolen. Every day new criminal proceedings are instituted in relation to gasoline crimes.

But how are people reacting? Some are grumbling quietly, others are prepared to stick it out to the end. Here is what "Plasta" plant foreman E. Vyaskyala told a VECHERNYYE NOVOSTI correspondent: "Some workers did not support Landsbergis' policy and criticized him for being hasty, for making unexpected decisions, for rushing things. But the paradox is that the blockade has had the opposite effect, because it has set people against the center and the Union authorities." Mechanics' team leader I. Suslavichyus: "It is true what they say about unity in the face of a common problem. We have become more thrifty and economical and people have suddenly become prudent. But a way out of the crisis situation must be found. Our politicians should display greater composure and intelligence."

As for the top man... At nearly every session V. Landsbergis reads his peculiar political reports, which become longer every day. These reports analyze everything that is happening both in the republic and in the USSR and abroad. Who did what, who said what, and how it should be interpreted. The reaction to the well-known letter from the FRG chancellor and the French president was very peculiar and the reply said that "we ask you to convey to the Soviet leadership our agreement to discuss the idea of the temporary suspension of the consequences of all the decisions made by the parliament of the sovereign Lithuanian Republic." How significant Lithuania's foreign policy moves are, it is hard to say. I still remember the nasty attacks during the session on those deputies who proposed something like that only a few weeks ago. The "Sajudis" congress also induces grim thoughts. A couple of speakers got a loud ovation when they blamed the independent Lithuanian Communist Party for the current situation in the republic and, at the same time, divulged a terrible secret: the independent Lithuanian Communist Party—traitors to a man—is preparing to seize power.

I can see that the "Sajudis" program that is currently being implemented has now led Lithuania into an impasse. New ideas are needed, and therefore new people. Who? In my view, the very ones who are jeered and accused of every mortal sin going, but are nevertheless described as follows: "A fine fellow, but a communist." Here is the latest April sociological research. "Opinion of Lithuanian and world politicians" section ratings: A. Brazauskas—93 (89 in February); V. Landsbergis—76 (67). "In your opinion, which Lithuanian public leader has done most for Lithuania?" (five-point system): A. Brazauskas—4.29; V. Landsbergis—4.08.

Anyway, it is strange sometimes to hear people trying to discredit their own colleagues and partners, while calling for unity. Not only, I believe, because they belong to the other, in this case, independent, Communist Party. Rather, they sense that they are potentially the new leaders of a new line. Loving is tolerating, politics is the ability to tolerate opponents, and, therefore, of making compromises. But is it really the thing to do to chop down the Lithuanian pine forests to make your own paper; to seriously consider extracting your own oil in the vicinity of the Kurskaya Spit or "fight to the death" against the East while knowing that in the next few years or decades you will have to buy raw materials and market the bulk of your products there; and to criticize the West while at the same time expecting credits?

Article on Lithuanian Dependence on USSR Cited

LD0505165390 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] New York May 5 TASS—The leaders of Lithuania must have miscalculated the degree of the republic's vulnerability in the sphere of power supplies when they proclaimed independence from the Soviet Union, Professor Thomas Stauffer at Georgetown University says in an article published by the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR.

The cut-off of centralised oil supplies and the reduction of the natural gas flow immediately made clear the degree of Lithuania's dependence on the Soviet Union's power supply base. The Lithuanian economy is threatened with a complete shut-down without these supplies, the professor notes. Lithuania used to get virtually all fuel it required at considerably reduced prices. The Lithuanian financial resources are practically equal to zero and prospects for exports to the world market are limited. Lithuanian milk and meat products and consumer goods are highly valued in the Soviet Union, but only because they are in short supply. Other markets are little feasible.

Lithuania can claim the gold stocks deposited in French and Swiss banks before the incorporation into the Soviet Union, but these resources will hardly suffice to pay one-month oil bill, Stauffer believes.

As for the gold deposited in American banks the independent Lithuanian Republic will not be able to make use of it, because it was turned into U.S. Government securities, with interest being used to pay the expenses of several Lithuanian offices that have been functioning in other countries since before World War Two, the American professor points out.

The leaders of most leading democratic powers, including President Bush, have made it sufficiently clear over the past months that their support of Lithuania's right to independence does not imply readiness to impose economic sanctions against the Soviet Union to press for Lithuania's independence, says an editorial in the JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND COMMERCIAL, a periodical of the U.S. business community.

The new republican government not only made haste in proclaiming the republic's immediate independence but also began to encourage Lithuanians to desert from the Soviet Armed forces—a step which must have evoked the Soviet military leadership's anger.

Now that a partial economic blockade has been introduced as retaliation, Lithuanian officials blame the West. This is fiction. Even if the United States and West European countries deemed it necessary to prioritise the matter of Lithuania's independence over all other aspects of relations with the Soviet Union, their possibilities for intervention are very limited. And then it is not in their interests. Repeatedly reiterating that they have no wish to see the Soviet Union dismembered, President Bush and his West European colleagues have been striving for a sharp reduction of military tension in the whole world. This achievement must not be jeopardised for the sake of rendering only moral support to Lithuania, regardless of how well grounded is its claim to independence.

Lithuanian Agriculture Suffers Under Blockade

LD0505023190 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] The economic blockade is telling painfully on agriculture. The issue is becoming urgent with the bigger agricultural jobs approaching, corn harvesting first of all. Lithuania no longer gets any tractors and other agricultural machines. The supply of hardware, however, is not the biggest problem that agriculture is facing. The most painful one is fuel oil and spare parts. All this is supplied in a centralized way and controlled by Moscow. Some farms still have a stock of fuel and they expect to last till haymaking time on it. Lithuania is an agricultural country and laying in fodder for winter is a vitally important problem. The independent daily the RESPUBLIKA is enlightened about [word indistinct] consequences of the economic blockade. It brings up the popular saying that the potato is another kind of bread, which can help us through the economic blockade. The daily proposes to grow more potatoes.

Aspects of Lithuanian 'Emergency Situation' Viewed

PM0405213790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Own correspondent Leonid Kapelyushnyy report under "Direct Line" rubric: "City Dwellers Invited to Countryside"]

[Text] Vilnius—The emergency situation in which Lithuania now finds itself is forcing people to take a new look at many seemingly normal things.

In their speeches and at news conferences Lithuania's political figures are persistently reiterating the idea that, with 10,000 citizens now without work and the possibility of this number increasing, unemployment as such is not a threat to Lithuanian citizens because there is a infinite amount of work to be done in agriculture. Forestry enterprises are ready to take on thousands of people to clear forests, which will make it possible to lay in supplies of firewood and reduce the danger of forest fires. Rural areas have been set the task of preparing to receive city dwellers...

True, I have yet to hear of mass enthusiasm among city dwellers themselves at the prospect of going to the countryside. Even for a while. Questions of an economic and moral order are arising.

Another point. There has been a lot of talk recently about the intolerability of harmful production units and demands for their immediate shutdown. Several such harmful units have come under crossfire from the "Greens" in Lithuania. They include the "Azot" Association at Ionava, the pulp and paper unit at Klaipeda, and oil extraction facilities. It's a tough issue: The health of the nation is under threat. But, in the present crisis situation, people are saying that "Azot" must continue work. The Lithuanian government is asking the USSR to increase "specially targeted" gas supplies to this association, pledging that all contract obligations will be met.

The Lithuanian pulp and paper workers are to be congratulated: Having traditionally relied on imported paper, they have rapidly organized paper production on the basis of secondary raw materials.

After debates, the republic Supreme Soviet has adopted a Law on Restoring the Rights of Persons Repressed for Resisting Occupying Regimes. It has been made clear that Bolsheviks and fascists fall into the category of these regimes. Under the new law, rehabilitation is conducted without a review of the case—simply on the basis of sentence or exile. The law does not extend to persons involved in mass shootings or other actions regarded as crimes against humanity.

Anti-Veteran Sentiments in Lithuania Criticized

PM0705155790 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 May 90 Second Edition p 2

[S. Shevtsov article: "Plundered Glory: What Old Frontliners in Lithuania Fear Today"]

[Text] "Vilnius lay in ruins then, it was painful to see," Vladimir Nikolayevich Rokhlin said. "Not like it is now—what a stunner! As soon as the fascists had been driven out of here, the Lithuanian government asked us to help raise the city from the ruins. Whereas now they say behind my back: 'Get out of here, occupier'..."

We are walking along in the sun-drenched streets of Vilnius, a feeling gnawing at our hearts. Just a few years ago Vladimir Nikolayevich would have shown me this city—which had become his native city because it is his home and he is a veteran—with pride and joy whereas today he feels like a stranger in it, like me. And even when describing his part in the restoration of Vilnius, he tries to talk softly: Russian is not respected here nowadays and when some young people hear it they may insult the speaker.

Vladimir Nikolayevich is head of a regimental veterans council. Dozens of his comrades in arms lie buried in Lithuanian soil. He described how when officers go around town they keep together in the corners of the trolleybuses and trams because they, too, are "occupiers" here. V. Landsbergis has stated on the republic's radio that an army stationed in a country without its inhabitants' consent deserves just such a name.

So, did those who liberated Lithuania from the fascists and raised this country from the ruins make a mistake in doing so without asking V. Landsbergis and his ilk? And should they have listened to V. Landsbergis-Zjamkalnis—father of the republic's present leader who, as Lithuanian minister of municipal services, cooperated enterprisingly with the fascists? Nowadays he leads a comfortable life in a well appointed apartment in Vilnius and sometimes vacations at his villa at Kaunas. They say that he still has very considerable influence over his son.

Of course, everyone is free to profess his own faith and worship his own god. What is strange here, however, is a loss of memory which stems not from ignorance or an inability to think but is conscious, aggressively bellicose, and is raised to the level of a principle, even a policy. One which is carefully nurtured and specially fostered and which causes a moral blindness, primarily in the young. The attacks against memory become increasingly cynical and overt with each passing day, oblivion is spreading ever deeper and gnawing at the heart. And the kind of episode which my friend described, for example, has ceased to be funny. In a Vilnius beer hall a young man responded to a remark by an elderly man about the quality of the beer by saying: "You shouldn't have been so good at shooting Germans, here, old man, you'd be drinking Bavarian beer now otherwise..."

If you ask people in Vilnius how to get to Hero of the Soviet Union Marite Melnikajte Street, they will answer: "It used to be Melnikajte Street. Now it is Juozapavicius Street." I remember how back in seventh grade I fell in love with that fearless girl, who was murdered by the fascists, when I saw a movie about her. But the first time that I heard someone ask who was Juozapavicius was from Great Patriotic War veterans at the garrison's officers center and later I asked this question on the street bearing his name. Young people shrugged their shoulders while a short, middle-aged man answered glibly: "He fought against the Bolsheviks," and smirked.

Yes, unfortunately not all young Lithuanians are well acquainted with the heroes of Sajudis yet. Even the Sajudis members are trying hard, really hard, to ensure that their idols are the heroes of all Lithuanians without exception. Vilnius no longer has a Red Army Avenue, Suvorov Street, or Kutuzov Square—now they are named after those who fought "against the Bolsheviks, against Russia." The renaming of streets, avenues, and squares is now a commonplace event in the republic.

How is this done? Take one example. On 24 November 1989, the Garljava settlement soviet executive committee in Kaunasskiy Rayon asked the residents of Kamyaunimo Street to come to a meeting. They were told to rename their street—and call it after J. Luksa.

Since the Sajudis majority at that meeting was overwhelming in all senses, the street in Garljava was soon renamed and a memorial plaque with Luksa's picture was even hung up. Who is he? Here is an archive document signed by Luksa himself: "12 April 1946 three families shot near Aleve: 1) Abromavicus, Pjatras, aged 53, his wife Prane, 50, their son Stasis, 14. This citizen and his wife had voted in the elections of 10 February 1946. 2) Minkjalene, aged about 40, her daughters Prane, 16, and Eljana, 12. Her sons Pjatras, 15, and Juozas, six. The charge was that the children often went into the woods. 3) Vitkauskas, Juozas, 50, his wife Ona, 48, sons Vladas, 20, and Vincas, 10. They supported the Soviets." How concise, how sadistically put!

But Luksa—a paid spy and terrorist who hunted down old folk, women, and children even as late as 1951, could hardly have hoped that one day he would be held in such high esteem in a land which he hated and which he caused to be drenched in blood. Unfortunately, that is how things change today!

But can memory, like history, be destroyed and rebuilt? Especially when the people who lived through what Sajudis' members are doggedly trying to hush up are still alive.

Everyone knows that the formation of anti-Soviet armed gangs began in Lithuania back in the years of the Hitlerite occupation. Since the majority of those who inspired and organized the anti-Soviet underground were trained by the Gestapo, they applied their acquired knowledge and skills dilligently and purposefully. According to preliminary information, they tortured and killed over 25,000 people including 6,000 women and 1,000 children.

No, it is no coincidence that the onslaught against those people who really struggled for the Lithuanian people's freedom and saved them from fascist enslavement is now one of Sajudis' ideological priorities.

A little over 32,000 Great Patriotic War veterans are left in Lithuania. The majority of them are weak, sick people who have now lost the few privileges that they enjoyed until recently. When they try to meet in their modest little rooms at veterans councils and housing services offices they are thrown out, their keys taken away, and new locks fitted to the doors during the night.

A. Zubrickas, a veteran of the 91st rifle division, and his comrades in arms recently tried to visit secondary school no. 44 in Kaunas, which for many years housed a combat glory room. It had been created by the school children together with the frontliners. But the school's leadership barred the entrance: "You cannot come in..." Imagine their grief when the old soldiers learned that the combat glory room no longer existed and its exhibits had disappeared without trace.

It seems that not a day passes without "free" Lithuanian newspapers insulting frontliners. They call the veterans councils nothing less than "hornets' nests" and the frontliners themselves "Stalinists," "stagnationists," and "occupiers."

Danuta Markauskas, a courageous former machine gunner and holder of three classes of the Order of Glory, was unable to meet with me. Since her speech at the ceremonial meeting in honor of the 70th anniverary of the October Revolution the Sajudis people have given her no peace—they try to humiliate, insult, and intimidate her. "And I want to see my grandchildren again," Danute said in apology when she telephoned.

NASHI ZABOTY, the Lithuanian war and labor veteran council's one and only, small newspaper, has not been reaching its readers. In the city of Aniksciai, veterans, driven to despair, decided to follow the newspaper's tracks. From the rayon department of "Soyuzpechat," where the newspaper was received they set off to where it is sold. The kiosk holder answered calmly: "It didn't arrive." But when they, as representatives of the social organization, went into the kiosk they discovered to their amazement that the kiosk holder was sitting on a pile of copies of NASHI ZABOTY! Ashamed, the woman burst out crying: "They force me not to sell it..."

I could quote grim examples of that kind ad infinitum: There is the example of how the director of the Vilnius museum of the revolution—a Hero of the Soviet Union—was sacked and the museum closed down; how they tried to tear the Gold Star off another Hero of the Soviet Union right there on the street; and of how someone contemptuously hurled a piece of bread in the face of a veteran immediately after he had addressed a rally....

I am sure that like me many people remember the impassioned speech by a young man at a rally in front of the Supreme Soviet building in Vilnius. He finished with a verse: "People, the Sajudis man is coming!.." Thousands of people in Lithuania today are already finding out for themselves that this Sajudis man is terrifying and just how terrifying he is. But surely those who are themselves a part of Lithuanian history are fully aware of the dangerous depth of the changes which have taken place or are imminent. And those people must be heeded.

But Jonas Smilgiavicus, deputy chairman of the Vilnius city veterans' council, is convinced that what is happening to a section of the Lithuanian people is just like the story of the capercaillie: When it sings it gets excited and cannot see or hear anything.

"But when the nationalist excitement passes," the veteran believes, "Lithuanians will see that the Sajudis people duped them. Maybe the likes of Landsbergis were happy in bourgeois Lithuania but not me, a worker and son of a worker. I did not have the kind of home that the Landbsergis family had, I didn't earn their kind of money. Landsbergis was not unemployed and did not stand with his father on the street in Kaunas like I did, carrying a saw trying to get work sawing wood. And when Landsbergis and his economists now promise little Lithuania between 100,000 to 300,000 unemployed at least, I can see where they are taking people."

Obviously, it is not for themselves that the old soldiers in Lithuania are fearful today. Their grievances are just: Right on the eve of the Great Victory holiday they are being humiliated, insulted, and denigrated. And is that not because they themselves are feared, because they are that Memory itself?

Landsbergis Offers Help to Chernobyl Victims

LD0505023390 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] Chairman of Lithuania's Supreme Council, Vytautas Landsbergis, has sent a message to the Supreme Soviets of Belorussia and the Ukraine, expressing condolences to the residents of those republics, especially children who were affected by the Chernobyl tragedy. The message offers Lithuania's assistance, however limited because of the economic blockade. Lithuania is prepared to receive children, victims of the Chernobyl disaster at its sanatoria in summer and it iss also ready to supply ecologically clean foodstuffs for children residing in the contaminated zone, says Vytautas Landsbergis' message.

Text of Lithuanian Appeal to Red Cross

90UN1567D Vilnius EKHO LITVY in Russian 6 Apr 90 pp 1, 3

[Decree of the Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council: "On an Appeal to the Red Cross and International Human Rights Organizations for Help"]

[Text] Taking into consideration that in June 1940 the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union invaded Lithuania and occupied it, crudely violating international law;

and that the majority of democratic states, including Switzerland and the Holy See, never acknowledged the occupation and annexation committed by the Soviet Union and have acknowledged de jure continuity of the Lithuanian state up to the present time;

that as a result of free and legal elections the people of Lithuania elected representatives to the Supreme Council, which proclaimed the restoration of Lithuanian independence on 11 March 1990;

that more than 1,000 young people of Lithuania have refused to serve in the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union and have returned to Lithuania in search of refuge from physical and psychological pressures on them which are applied primarily as a result of their nationality, and also because the Armed Forces in Lithuania are an Army of occupation;

that in accordance with The Hague (1907) and Geneva (1949) Conventions and with universally acknowledged principles of international laws an occupier may not draft the civilian population of the occupied territory into the occupation Armed Forces;

that the Lithuanian Red Cross, created in 1919, granted refuge and nourishment to all persons from Lithuania who abandoned the Soviet Army if they appealed for such help;

that on 27 March 1990 armed soldiers of Soviet Army assault units launched an attack, broke into the Novovilnyaskiy psychiatric hospital in the city of Vilnius and the Zhegzhdryayskiy psychiatric hospital in the city of Kaunas, broke down the doors, cut the telephone lines which are used in cases of emergency, tore down the flag of the Red Cross, insulted nurses and doctors, and cruelly beat and forcibly abducted unarmed young military refuseniks as well as several psychiatric patients;

that a Polish-American television team were threatened with violence if they did not hand over to the assault troops their film, on which was recorded the aforementioned events at the Novovilnyaskiy hospital;

that the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union refuse to report the location and condition of the kidnapped soldiers;

that Soviet servicemen dressed in civilian clothing are breaking into the private homes of Lithuanian residents and continue to forcibly abduct Lithuanian youths who have left military service in the Soviet Union;

that the presidium of the Lithuanian society of the Red Cross has lodged a protest with the administration of the Soviet Union in connection with the actions of the Soviet Army and has made a request to the International Red Cross to send to Lithuania international specialists who could evaluate the situation which is taking shape in Lithuania as a result of the youths' refusal to serve in the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union;

that, in connection with the aforementioned action of the USSR Armed Forces on the territory of Lithuania, the chairman of the Supreme Council and the prime minister of the Republic of Lithuania have lodged a protest with the president of the Soviet Union but have not received an answer;

that the command of the Soviet Army intends to continue using force to abduct from Lithuania young soldiers who have left service in the Soviet Army, explaining that the president of the USSR and the minister of defense do not permit the use of other methods;

that the Republic of Lithuania has demanded that the military commissariats of the Soviet Union be closed in Lithuania and it has declared that it will not support the attempts of the authorities of the Soviet Union to draft Lithuania's young men into the Soviet Army;

and that the Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva has asked a representative of the Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council to produce an official parliamentary decree on an appeal to the International Red Cross for help,

the Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council:

1. Appeals to representatives of the International Red Cross to render immediate aid by observing and verifying the activities of the USSR Armed Forces on the territory of the Republic of Lithuania with a demand to evaluate the condition of Lithuanian youths forcibly abducted and compelled to complete their military service.

2. Requests that the International Red Cross urge the Government of the USSR to observe the conditions codified in the Geneva convention and universally acknowledged principles of international law and immediately order its military personnel to cease attempts to compel the youths to serve in the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union through arrests and coercion.

3. Appeals to the International Red Cross and other international human rights organizations, including the International Human Rights Organization, the organization "Amnesty International," and Helsinki Watch, to take the necessary measures to establish the locations and condition of all Lithuanian youths kidnapped over recent weeks and aid in resolving questions concerning their fate.

4. Requests that the Red Cross and other international human rights organizations help establish the locations and the physical and psychological condition of Lithuanian youths currently serving in the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union.

5. Requests that the governments of the world and the International Red Cross raise the issue of forcibly compelling the residents of Lithuania to serve in an Army of occupation at a United Nations human rights conference and at the approaching Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

6. Requests that the International Red Cross take all other necessary and advisable steps to free Lithuanian military refuseniks recently kidnapped by the Armed Forces of the USSR.

[Signed] V. Landsbergis, chairman of the Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council.

Vilnius, 3 April 1990.

Lithuania Sends Appeal to Estonian Supreme Soviet

*90UN1567F Vilnius EKHO LITVY in Russian
6 Apr 90 p 3*

[Appeal: "To the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] The Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council welcomes and supports the victory of progressive and democratic forces in the parliament of Estonia and it follows events in Tallinn attentively.

A great impression has been made on the Lithuanian people by the first truly radical and decisive decrees of the democratically elected Estonian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet, which has given an evaluation of the occupation and annexation of your state committed in 1940 and has declared the beginning of the restoration of Estonia sovereignty. The Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council views this declaration on the state status of Estonia as an expression of the sacred will of the Estonian people.

The declaration of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet on the restoration of the Republic of Lithuania's independence sounded in Lithuania like an echo of Baltic solidarity. The recognition of Lithuania's state independence which was announced by the Estonian parliament, the legal treatment of that independence, and Estonia's moral support of the aspirations long cherished by the people of Lithuania hold especial importance for us. It gives us strength for Lithuania's difficult road to independence. We thank you for your support, we hope for full cooperation, and we recognize the independent Estonian state that you are reestablishing. Our strength is in unity!

Fifty years ago independence was forcibly taken from independent states—Estonia and Lithuania—and our peoples have had to experience an endless quantity of losses, offenses, and humiliations. But like the Lithuanians, the Estonians have found in themselves the bravery, will, and strength to straighten themselves out and declare firmly to the whole world the inalienable right of people and nations to live freely and govern independently.

The Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council congratulates the deputies who are its colleagues and the proud Estonian people whom they represent and who have taken a decisive step toward independence, and it wishes Estonia endurance and happiness.
[Signed] V. Landsbergis, in the name of the Republic of Lithuania Supreme Council.
Vilnius, 4 April 1990.

TASS Reviews Estonian Supreme Soviet Session

*LD0805210890 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT
8 May 90*

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Kharchenko]

[Text] Tallinn May 8 TASS—The state flag of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic was lowered from the mast of the Toompea Castle, the seat of the republican parliament, at noon today to be replaced by a blue-and-white one in accordance with the law on Estonian symbolism promulgated minutes earlier by the fifth session of the republican Supreme Soviet. The new law annulled the name "Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic" and introduced another official name—the Estonian republic. This created the precedent for the restoration of the former sovereign state and equitable talks with the Soviet Union.

A number of major changes and additions suggested by deputies during the debate were of a general political nature and transcended the boundaries of state symbolism. A number of articles from the 1938 Estonian Constitution were enacted.

Deputy Vladimir Malkovskiy read a statement by a group of parliamentarians, pointing out that the promulgation of laws of this kind served to aggravate differences between the leadership of the Soviet Union and the Estonian republic, to exacerbate the already complex domestic situation in the republic and to escalate interethnic tensions. The deputies called upon local authorities and work collectives in their constituences to join efforts to defend their rights as Soviet citizens. They announced their intention to convoke a congress of deputies of all levels favouring the unity of the Soviet Federation to consider the creation of legislative and executive bodies to defend the rights and interests of voters, define the procedure of a referendum concerning the republic's secession.

The statement contains an appeal to the Soviet president, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government to meet a group of deputies to discuss measures to protect constitutional rights of Soviet citizens residing in Estonia.

Estonia's Ryuytel on Name Change, Baltic Talks

*LD0905094590 Tallinn Domestic Service in Estonian
1700 GMT 8 May 90*

[Interview with Arnold Ryuytel, republic of Estonia Supreme Soviet chairman, by correspondent Raul Malk in Tallin on 8 May—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Malk] [passage omitted] How do you interpret the Supreme Soviet's adoption of a law on symbols?

[Ryuytel] In essence, this means that what we have declared, we have now almost implemented already with a resolution. But undoubtedly we will need to implement all this in practice and this is the work which lies ahead of our Supreme Soviet at the moment. I would like to wish a lot of happiness and strength to everybody as a result of our implementing this joint undertaking and (?forming) an independent Estonia. Our Supreme Soviet will continue along this path and [words indistinct] not yet informed of this that within the next few days in

Tallinn we will meet with the Lithuanian and Latvian republics' Supreme Soviet Chairmen. At this meeting we would like to adopt very (?serious) documents on the joint paths of our three peoples, in order to take another step toward the independence of the three republics. [passage omitted] Support is needed from each individual in order to forge ahead with hard work and complex talks with Moscow. [passage omitted]

Estonian Report on Abduction of Patient Denied

PM2704125590 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Apr 90 First Edition p 3

[Report by own correspondent Colonel A. Yurkin under the rubric "Direct Line": "'Topical Camera'... Disinforms"]

[Text] Tallinn—Estonian Television's "Topical Camera" has shocked television audiences with a sensational news item: KGB agents burst into a republic psychiatric hospital and forcibly removed a patient! Television journalists asked the public: "Who needed this show of strength in a medical establishment?" "What kind of saber-rattling is this?" And, finally: "Why is the KGB interfering in these matters?" These and other questions clearly reveal a desire to persuade audiences that KGB personnel have repeated the "Lithuanian scenario" in Estonia.

So what actually happened in the republic hospital and what has the KGB got to do with this sensation? I will immediately make it clear that it has absolutely nothing to do with this sensation! This, essentially, is what happened: The aforementioned medical establishment was in fact concealing a deserter—V. Novikov, a soldier from an internal troop unit. Having taken short-term leave for family reasons, under the influence of agitators working for "Geneva-49" and other anti-army movements urging people to refuse to serve in the "occupying forces," he decided he did not want to return to his unit and so, with the help of A. Haugu, the hospital's head doctor, he took refuge in one of the wards. Neither the soldier's parents nor the medical staff informed his unit of the fugitive's whereabouts. There was a long search for him and, when the trail led to the hospital, the company commander, Senior Lieutenant Yu. Vorobyev, went to get him. He was accompanied to the hospital by Captain of Medical Service V. Sereda. It was they who arrived in a bus bearing the red cross to take Private Novikov, who was working in the hospital's workshops, to a military hospital. It was Dr. Haugu who told television journalists that they were KGB agents when he gave an interview, during which he was unstinting in his efforts at slander.

It is noteworthy that deputies' questions at the current Estonian Supreme Soviet session followed immediately after the broadcast. Their questions were answered by Major General R. Podera, the republic's military commissar.

Riga Radio Carries 8 May Supreme Soviet Session

Deputies Accussed of Promoting Tension

LD0805081690

[Editorial Report] Riga Domestic Service in Latvian at 0700 GMT on 8 May begins carrying a live relay of the Latvian Supreme Soviet session in Riga.

The session is chaired by Gorbunov who opens the session at 0701 GMT. Several deputies submit points of order complaining that deputies Dzintars, Rubiks, and Alekseyev were promoting tension through their remarks at the 7 May session.

Gorbunov interjects that a report should be prepared prior to any debate on accusations leveled against deputies.

At 0711 GMT it is announced that 176 deputies are present. The Mandate Commission's report on the applications of Buks and Smirnov to be admitted as deputies followed. A vote is held at 0713 GMT approving this with 127 votes in favor.

Procedural Matters Discussed

LD0805114590

[Editorial Report] Riga Domestic Service in Latvian at 0714 GMT on 8 May continues its live relay of the Latvian Supreme Soviet session in Riga.

Gorbunov reports on procedural matters concerning today's work, including the establishment of commissions, the power structures of the Council of Ministers, the establishment and election of permanent commissions, and the law on the composition of the government and on its activity.

At 0719 GMT several Russian queries and contributions and also a Latvian one are made concerning procedure and regulations.

At 0735 GMT, Gorbunov repeats the proposed agenda.

At 0738 GMT the agenda is adopted by 159 in favor, 11 against, and two abstentions.

At 0739 GMT debate begins. Deputy Bojars proposes 10 minute speeches, and that deputies should be allowed to participate in several commissions.

At 0746 GMT Deputy (Berzs) speaks about voting and the ethics of abstention or nonparticpation.

At 0750 GMT Deputy Zaletayev, speaking in Russian, comments on constitutional norms. Another Russian-speaking deputy mentions the issues of factions and guarantees for minorities.

At 0757 GMT Deputy Plotnieks has some specific proposal regarding the work of commissions and the act concerning factions. There should be experts on the commissions. He refers to the experience of other parliaments where the deputies are not only sitting, but are busily engaged in their work, preparing speeches and projects. Only in such a way can a parliament work successfully. He submits proposals concerning voting equipment. Other deputies contribute.

At 0815 GMT Deputy Teikmanis proposes that the chairman of the session should be allowed to bar a deputy from speaking for the day if he has transgressed against the regulations by speaking on a subject not being discussed. At 0817 GMT a Russian-speaking deputy says he does not agree with Teikmanis. Several other proposals are made and a different wording of Teikmanis' proposal is adopted at 0826 GMT with 102 votes in favor.

At 0828 GMT a break until 0900 GMT is announced.

Voting Procedures Debated

LD0805115290

[Editorial Report] Riga Domestic Service in Latvian at 0901 GMT on 8 May resumes its live relay of the Latvian Supreme Soviet session in Riga.

Gorbunov opens the proceedings, continuing the discussion of the regulations. Several contributions are made concerning the establishment of commissions.

At 0915 GMT discussion continues in Russian on the role and qualities of members of commissions. Proposals are put forward on whether members of commissions should be professionals in the appropriate area. It is said that the members of commissions should be individuals rather than representatives of factions.

At 0924 GMT a vote is held on the proposal which has been put forward. The proposal is adopted.

At 0926 GMT discussion of voting procedure commences.

At 0927 GMT Gorbunov asks whether they should get bogged down in discussing changes to the Constitution. Plotnieks and others contribute by explaining the majority required for asking this. Gorbunov says that there is no extraordinary situation requiring this.

At 0931 GMT a Russian-speaking deputy says the majority procedure is unacceptable in that there would be a built-in advantage for one side.

At 0933 GMT Gorbunov asks why they want to create a crisis situation while discussing provisional regulations.

At 0935 GMT Geidans and another speaker suggest that in connection with the regulation concerning a quorum, if need be, the Constitution should be changed.

At 0938 GMT a Russian-speaking deputy talks about the procedure for changing the Constitution.

At 0939 GMT Gorbunov says that this must be put to the vote—whether changes to the Constitution be put on the agenda. The vote, at 0942 GMT, receives 41 votes in favor. Discussion continues on sections connected with the Constitution to be removed.

At 0947 GMT regulations concerning voting procedure are to be discussed.

At 0957 GMT a Russian-speaking deputy asks about secret and open voting. A Latvian deputy suggests that using equipment is equivalent to secret voting.

At 1000 GMT Gorbunov tells about Moscow's experience. Contributors express differing views.

At 1023 GMT articles of regulations concerning establishing a commission are discussed. Bresis and others contribute.

At 1028 GMT Deputy Gavrilov says in Russian that it is not a market-orientated approach to have a commission monitoring the work of enterprises.

At 1030 GMT Gorbunov proposes that a commission work on proposals during part of the lunch-break.

After a few announcements a break for lunch until 1200 GMT is declared.

Commission Membership Viewed

LD0805143990

[Editorial Report] Riga Domestic Service in Latvia at 1200 GMT on 8 May resumes its live relay of the Latvian Supreme Soviet session in Riga.

Gorbunov opens the session with a few announcements. Deputy Endzins and his colleagues, entrusted with preparing proposals, are not present yet at 1205.

At 1206 Deputy Krastins asks about Gavrilov's earlier proposal. Gorbunov comments on a publication in SOVETSKAYA LATVIA, which is to be referred to the procuracy. Gorbunov continues about why SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA does not publish certain materials.

At 1216 GMT a deputy says that the fact that regulations have not been confirmed should not prevent discussion of the proposed commissions.

At 1220 a Russian-speaking deputy talks about coverage of the parliament on television. Should a commission decide which parts should be shown? It is also pointed out that the 4 May declaration should be submitted to a referendum.

Gorbunov agrees with the proposal that work on the commissions can proceed. A Russian speaker, Zotov, comments on the issue of minority rights and proposes the formation of a commission for the affairs of believers which would be concerned with protecting their rights. He points out that believers have been repressed for 50 years.

At 1237 GMT Skapars speaks about the composition of commissions, their number and their purpose, citing the Lithuanian and Estonian experience. He suggests that a religious affairs commission could operate as a branch under the human rights commission. The other commissions should, however, be established without delay.

At 1244 GMT a Russian speaker raises the topic of defense. A Latvian speaker refers to the commission for defense. A Latvian speaker, referring to the commission for defense, says that a small country's defense commission was not required for warfare.

At 1245 GMT Gorbunov talks about the commission for architecture and construction. Gorbunov reminds that the question on the religious affairs commission has been postponed.

At 1255 GMT the coordination commission notes some corrections on individual articles. Articles are voted on individually.

At 1318 GMT Gorbunov asks whether there is time to continue with the next section, and corrections are continued on behalf of the coordination commission.

Gorbunov asks whether the regulations can be voted on. Gorbunov says that voting will take place on Thursday morning.

At 1323 GMT Ivars Godmanis gives information about how much food has been sold in Riga. This is still within the limits of stocks, but he announces the limits of goods to be sold per customer, and regulations concerning some goods sold against visiting cards and against coupons for May and June.

At 1329 GMT, after a query by Aleksey in Russian, there is a mandate commission's report on attendance at the session.

At 1332 GMT the day's session is closed and the next plenary session will reopen on Thursday morning (10 May) at 0700 GMT.

IZVESTIYA on Supreme Soviet Decisions

PM0805153290 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Own correspondent I. Litvinova report: "An 'Innocent Eyes' Policy, or an Honest Discussion?"]

[Text] Riga—The main item on the agenda for the Latvian Supreme Soviet session on 7 May was the appointment of a new Council of Ministers chairman. The post went to physicist Ivars Godmanis, chairman of the People's Front faction, a 39-year-old teacher at the Latvian University.

After the weekend the deputies returned to the declaration adopted "On the Restoration of the State Independence of the Latvain Republic." A letter was read out "To USSR President His Excellency M.S. Gorbachev," signed by Supreme Soviet Chairman A. Gorbunov, in which the declaration is described as the starting point for a transitional period, during which the power structures of an independent Latvian republic will be created. Among the aims of the transitional period is that of "achieving, in the process of mutually advantageous and equal talks between representatives of the USSR and the Latvian republic, a system of agreements ensuring guarantees of the Latvian republic's state independence and taking into account the vital interests of both states." The letter was supported by the People's Front faction, whose deputies have introduced "mister" as a form of address in parliament.

This is how S. Dimanis, leader of the "Equality" faction, assesses the situation:

"I am worried that the country's public is being misled about the events in Latvia by documents which contain incomprehensible formulations and are rather vague in meaning. What lies behind the fine words and publicistic enthusiasm? They say a referendum was not held in 1940. We proposed that one be held in 1990—especially since Article 5 of the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Constitution makes provision for this. No reaction. As has happened before in history, they cite the 'will of the people.' So why not ask the people...."

Notice that we seem to have two kinds of truth. One is for local use, the other "for Moscow." Supreme Soviet Chairman A. Gorbunov said in a television interview for the Russian-speaking population (extracts were shown on Central Television) that Latvia has regained its state independence, but this has not changed anything. Meanwhile world news agencies were transmitting what was said at a press conference by Andreys Krastinsh, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, to the effect that "as of 4 May the USSR is a foreign state with regard to Latvia."

And finally, about guarantees to citizens. They are apparently asked to choose: either remain USSR citizens or choose citizenship of the Latvian republic. But please note: In this way they are forcibly deprived of the Latvian SSR citizenship that already exists and is protected by the Constitution.

One last thing. The republic Supreme Soviet is described in the declaration as transitional—until the convocation of the Saeima. In that case, what is the price of the guarantees offered by this transitional leadership? After all, the Saeima could ignore them completely. I call all this an "innocent eyes policy." But what is needed is honest discussion...

The United Council of Labor Collectives of the republic, taking the view that an unconstitutional coup d'etat was committed in the Latvian SSR on 4 May, has appealed to all labor collectives to prepare for a political strike. In its appeal, which was published in the press, it demanded the repeal of the session's unlawful decision, which is aimed at the overthrow of soviet power and Latvia's secession from the Soviet Union.

More Reporting on Latvian Independence Decision

PM0805155190 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 May 90 First Edition p 5

[Colonel M. Ziyeminsh report: "Latvia: Declaration Adopted"]

[Text] There is such a din at times outside the Supreme Soviet building, where the first session of the new convocation is continuing its work, that it drowns out the voices of the deputies speaking. Those present are keenly following everything deputies say and, depending on their opinion, react to what is being said and what is going on in the hall accordingly.

However, the session is continuing its work. The question put forward by I. Godmanis, chairman of the majority group—regarding the adoption of a declaration "On Restoring the Independence of the Latvian Republic"—was the first point on the agenda 4 May.

The debate over this question was long, hard, and sharp. Diametrically opposed opinions were expressed and when the time came to embark on voting procedure the chairman of the faction standing on the CPSU platform read out a statement from which it emerged that members of the faction would not take part in the voting on this question. Voting continued: Some 138 deputies voted "for" the declaration during the roll-call vote. That represents six votes more than is needed for a qualified parliamentary majority at this moment.

Now a word about the declaration itself. It comprises nine points. The introductory paragraph says in particular that the "inclusion of the Latvian republic in the Soviet Union in 1940 is invalid in international law." It also gives the "reason" for this conclusion. It is worded in the following way: "Sejm elections were held in occupied Latvia 14 and 15 July 1940 amid political terror on the basis of an illegally adopted unconstitutional election law. Only one of the 17 lists of candidates put to the vote was permitted—the list of candidates from the 'working people's bloc.' The 'working people's bloc' election platform did not demand that Soviet power be proclaimed in Latvia or that the Latvian republic enter the Soviet Union. What is more, the results of the voting were faked."

On this basis the republic's Supreme Soviet proclaimed the Latvian Sejm declaration of 21 July 1940 "On the Entry of Latvia into the USSR" to be invalid from the moment it was adopted. It proclaimed that the Latvian republic Constitution adopted by the Constituent Assembly 15 February 1922 is to resume its operation throughout Latvian territory and "Latvian republic" is to be considered the "official title of the Latvian state."

The fifth point of the declaration envisages "establishing a transitional period for the restoration of de facto Latvian republic state power that will end with the convocation of a Latvian republic Sejm."

During the transitional period the Latvian republic Supreme Soviet is to exercise supreme state power in Latvia. The eighth point of the declaration envisages "guaranteeing citizens of the Latvian republic and other states who permanently reside on Latvian territory social, economic, and cultural rights, and also political freedoms, in line with generally accepted international norms of human rights." These rights and freedoms, the declaration goes on to say, fully apply to USSR citizens who express a desire to live in Latvia, without taking its citizenship. The declaration also indicates how relations between the "Latvian republic and the USSR" will be built—namely "on the basis of the existing peace treaty between Russia and Latvia of 11 August 1920, which recognizes Latvian state independence in perpetuity"—and a government commission will be formed for talks with the USSR.

A demonstration organized by the Latvian People's Front involving thousands of people took place in Riga in the evening to mark the declaration's adoption.

Results of Latvian Supreme Soviet Viewed

PM0805152590 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 8 May 90 p 2

[Own correspondent V. Proskura report under the rubric "On Events in Latvia": "Taking Advantage of a Pause..."]

[Text] Riga—The first session of the newly elected Supreme Soviet of the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] has adopted a "Declaration of Independence," i.e., to put it more simply, a decision to secede from the Soviet Union. True, as the leader of the "initiators"—D. Ivans, president of the People's Front Duma (he is now also first deputy chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet)—emphasized at the session of the republic's parliament, it is a question not of secession, "since we never even joined the USSR," but of the restoration of independence.

The "package of documents" approved by the session points out, in particular, that today's parliamentarians reject the Latvian Sejm's 1940 decision to restore Soviet power in the republic and to join the USSR. The Latvian SSR thereby becomes the successor to the peace treaty with Soviet Russia concluded in 1920 and to the capitalist republic's 1922 Constitution. In short, the latter-day builders of national statehood are, as it were, beginning everything from zero.

The "Equal Rights" parliamentary faction, which is supported by the Latvian Communist Party, refused to participate in the vote on this declaration. However, the supporters of the "new course" had sufficient deputies' mandates. This does not mean that party members are in the minority among the parliamentarians. No, they make up more than half of them. But the pattern of the voting was far from always along party lines.

Here is a typical example. A. Gorbunov and I. Daudish, chairman and secretary of the republic Supreme Soviet respectively, voted for the declaration. They held the same posts on the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium of the last convocation and previously were high-ranking party workers. The day before Gorbunov had left the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee and, in his words, filled out a registration card of a member of the so-called Independent Communist Party. And I. Kezbers, chairman of the Independent Communist Party of Latvia and a former cultural worker in the upper echelon of power, who once replaced Gorbunov in the post of secretary of the republic Communist Party Central Committee for ideology, also spoke out from the parliamentary rostrum in favor of the declaration proposed by the LPF [Latvian People's Front] (true, Ivar Yanovich did not get to vote personally—he is not a deputy of the Latvian Supreme Soviet). A whole number of yesterday's senior officials acted similarly in search of new "portfolios...."

...The first to speak during the discussion of the declaration was A. Rubiks, the present leader of the Latvian Communist Party, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and deputy of the republic parliament. His speech was quite constructive and was built not on rally-style emotions but on facts. The first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee reminded the "populists" that the 1922 bourgeois-democratic Constitution was annulled by K. Ulmanis, the then president of Latvia, in the coup of 1934. (Historians give the subsequent dictatorial regime various names, ranging from "military-fascist" to "authoritarian-totalitarian"). That ruler, who was proclaimed the "father of the nation," dissolved the multiparty parliament, and parties themselves were banned. Not only communists, who were outlawed as members of an internationalist party in the 1922-model republic, but also a number of prominent social democrats and other liberals found themselves in prison torture chambers.

While upholding ideological and organizational unity with the CPSU, the Latvian Communist Party today certainly does not deny its republic's right to state self-determination. But the communists propose, above all, a nationwide discussion and a referendum on this question. In addition, according to the collective opinion formulated by the 25th Latvian Communist Party Congress and subsequent Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenums, the appropriate socioeconomic and legal preconditions are necessary for such an act.

On the eve of the parliamentary session a televised debate took place among the leaders of deputies' groupings and sociopolitical organizations of the Latvian SSR. The moderator of the television program, whose motto was "Constructiveness and Cooperation," asked I. Godmanis, chairman of the LPF faction and, as people say here, its candidate for the post of prime minister of the republic, how fair were the internationalists' retorts that less than 40 percent of the electorate voted for the People's Front's nominees. Godmanis remarked that far less than 40 percent of the electorate voted even for the U.S. President in the last elections, but nobody disputes his powers. "And yet," A. Alekseyev, leader of the Latvian SSR International Front of Working People, countered his opponent's reply, "if the U.S. President, let us assume, conceived the intention of entering into a federation with the Soviet Union, he would, I believe, agree to a nationwide referendum."

But at the Supreme Soviet session a peaceable debate did not materialize at all. True, A. Alekseyev again elicited applause when he cited A. Gorbunov's comparatively recent assertion that Latvia's truly national statehood was restored in 1940 in accordance with the working people's will. His opponents noted the accuracy of the polemical ploy.... However, this time what counted was not the arguments but the faction's deputies' mandates.

Replying to a question from a representative of "Equal Rights" on how the new leadership intends to guarantee the rights of the parliamentary minority, A. Krastins, second deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet (a former Internal Affairs Ministry investigator and member of the "Movement for Latvia's National Independence" Board), briefly explained that this is, henceforth, the concern of the minority itself. Mr. Krastins—this is what he was called in parliament—at once reminded the deputies that he, like the movement which he represents, advocates the denationalization of the republic's economy and the return of property to its former owners. And he considers the Latvian Communist Party a "branch of a foreign political organization, for which there is, of course, no place in an independent state. [no closing quotation mark as published]

Both during the session and at demonstrations and in the mass media certain "populists" like M. Vulfson, senior lecturer in the social disciplines department of the Latvian Academy of Arts, reproached deputies who represent, for example, Daugavpils with its factories and plants, Liepaja with its industry and port, and Riga's working-class rayons, saying that the inflexibility of their demands with regard to holding a universal referendum is too categorical in its nature. But this is the will of the voters, and these are the mandates given to their parliamentarians by hundreds of labor collectives, the republic's United Council of Labor Collectives, workers' committees, and the political strike committees now being set up in industrial cities and at enterprises. All the more so as the Latvian SSR Constitution contains an article which provides for a referendum in such situations.

One of the chief counterarguments of the LPF propagandists is that Latvian SSR legislation contains no special enactment on referendums. Well, that argument really does not stand up to any criticism. What, one wonders, prevented the Supreme Soviet from first creating, as laid down, permanent deputies' commissions which would set about drawing up such an essential draft law?

Meanwhile, the social situation in the republic is inexorably becoming inflamed. "Ultraradicals" are being heard to say—they have been recorded several times by local television and radio—that it is necessary to rely on "neo-Ulmanists," on... a military junta. "Oil was poured on the flames by the "Congress of Civilian Power Committees" which was organized on the eve of the Supreme Soviet session and which rated as first-class citizens of the republic only those who were born here before June 1940 and their descendants. [quotation marks as published] Next behind these are "probationers"—those who will have proved their loyalty.... Incidentally, one of the organizers of the assembly of activists of unconstitutional committees was the aforesaid A. Krastins, the newly elected deputy chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet.

To all appearances, certain homegrown politicians are really set on playing "powerful roles."

...While I was writing these lines A. Rubiks, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, was speaking on republic television. He reported on his telephone conversation with M.S. Gorbachev. The country's president also regards as unconstitutional the act undertaken by the "majority faction" in the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet.

PRAVDA Reports on Latvian Supreme Soviet

PM0405134990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 May 90 Second Edition p 7

[Own correspondent O. Meshkov dispatch under general heading: "Sessions Held"]

[Text] Riga—Yesterday the small square in front of the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet was crowded with pickets from the morning. The diversity of their slogans and appeals testifies to the polarization of the political and social forces in the republic. Side by side with a poster reading "We will defend Soviet power in Latvia!" another picket carried a poster with a totally different content: "Latvia's independence from the USSR—now!" In this way the city's inhabitants, the voters, tried to influence the republic people's deputies.

On the eve of the first session of the new Supreme Soviet a press conference was held. Journalists were told by the representative of the People's Front parliamentary group that two-thirds of the deputies would vote for Latvia's independence. However, as distinct from the Lithuanian version, a transitional period will be set during the adoption of the resolution. A government commission is also being set up to ensure the normal development of negotiations with Moscow. Apart from the People's Front group a Latvian Communist Party group has also been established in parliament. It has considerably fewer supporters, but I must mention that their number has considerably increased as a result of the second round of elections held 29 April.

In the course of the session proceedings the path of the development of Latvia's statehood is to be defined and the question of relations with the USSR is to be decided.

Deputies elected the chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet from a choice of candidates. It is once again S. Gorbunov. His rival, A. Alekseyev, chairman of the Presidium of the International Front of the Working People of Latvia, proposed his candidacy for this post himeself.

The session is continuing.

Latvia's Godmanis Gives Details of Rationing

LD0805201990 Riga Domestic Service in Latvian 1323 GMT 8 May 90

[Statement by Ivars Godmanis, chairman of the Latvian Council of Ministers, at the Latvian Supreme Soviet session in Riga—live]

[Text] Highly respected deputies, I will speak very slowly, so that a translation can also be given, but I think that everybody understands Latvian. I want to talk so that our radio listeners can hear us too. I have also requested, in connection with this announcement, the Deputy Minister of Trade (?Gavarts) to attend to provide specific information, if there is a demand for it.

The first principle is a follows—simply information about Riga. Today, nine tonnes...9.2 tonnes of flour, 22.6 tonnes of groats, 11.8 tonnes of pasta, and 12 tonnes of salt have been bought. I want to say right away that this is nothing awful. I want to say that, for the time being, we are still calmly keeping within the limits of stocks, within the limits of the distributed stocks.

At the same time, of course, there has been a certain frenzy [aziotaza]—I do not want to call it a frenzy—a certain buying activity has become apparent. Here I would like to tell you that in practice by yesterday evening I had already consulted the minister of trade in connection with the measures which could be carried out so that we could normalize, to a certain extent, providing the inhabitants with the necessary products. More specifically, on 7 May the ministry sent a circular letter to trade organization. This circular letter contains the following instructions.

The month of May: To sell in the month of May to one customer at a single purchase two kgs of flour, one kg of groats, one kg of pasta, i.e. two packets, one kg of salt, and one container of matches, i.e. 10-12 boxes.

Second: To fix the daily consumption of the trade organization, the shop, thereby ensuring the rational utilization [of supplies] throughout the month. I do not know [what will happen] if things do not move in this direction. Everybody should try now to make available what they have but to do this calmly.

Third: To implement these sales controls by showing visiting cards, including those in operation in the territories of local soviets.

Fourth: So then, in connection with the procedure I have mentioned, on 8 May, that is today, the need to prepare a recommendation for the Ministry of Trade on the introduction of such procedures at executive committees of towns and rayons. Also local soviets of deputies should be given rights, depending on what the situation is like in the local soviet's territory, to operate to a certain extent independently.

In the month of June: [words indistinct] goods to be sold by coupons in the same amounts as mentioned here. [passage indistinct]

Second: To continue selling these goods [words indistinct] at a single purchase to one customer which have already been fixed earlier, but have not always been observed in practice. [sentence as heard] The purchase of meat, sausage products, butter, cheese, animal husbandry products, vegetable oil, and a number of nonfood products will by sold only through showing visiting cards.

Last: To continue selling sugar and detergents by coupons.

So this is how it is. As I mentioned at the very beginning, this date here, [words indistinct] although I will request an examination of this specific data [words indistinct] I want to state only one thing, and here I address all our listeners as well as the deputies: Stay calm because here the question connected with forming the new structure of state power is being tackled democratically. In the same way, very calmly and firmly, without any special fuss, support the processes taking place here and throughout Latvia. As I said in my address when I was standing for the position of Chairman of the Council of Ministers, in this situation rationing is an absolutely normal event, because, by taking into consideration the situation in the entire Union, this will only ensure that every inhabitant will be guaranteed the corresponding minimun of goods. I think that the example of sugar, as well as the coupons for detergents, are solving this situation vey satisfactorily under the present conditions.

If there are still more specific questions we could request the deputy minister of trade to reply to them.

Solutions to Estonian Economic Problems Examined

LD2804093190 Moscow TASS in English 0759 GMT 28 Apr 90

["Estonia: Is There a Way Out of Economic Crisis?"—TASS headline; by ETA correspondent Ruta Pels]

[Text] Tallinn April 28 TASS—The signing of the Baltic Treaty by the leaders of the three Soviet Baltic republics was one of the first points scored by the newly-formed Estonian government. By laying the foundations for economic and cultural cooperation with their neighbours in the region, the heads of government reaffirmed the desire to act in the future as a single bloc in deciding matters relating to the development of all three republics.

According to Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar, who is also the recognised leader of the republican Popular Front, the treaty is the first step on the way to integration and the creation of a Baltic market.

The solution of economic problems and the liquidation of prime commodity shortages are high on the agenda of the new Estonian government.

"In order to rectify the situation it is most imortant to stimulate enterprising initiative," says Economy Minister Jak Leiman. He started out as a worker and made his way up to become doctor of economics and specialist in the field of managing economic organisations. For a long time his was the role of adviser when the regional self-accounting plan was being worked out. Now the time has come for him to head the implementation of the plan.

"A sober look at the present situation," Leiman told deputies of the Estonian Supreme Soviet, "reveals we are economically unprepared for independence, because we found ourself in a different situation for 50 years and are not accustomed to taking part in the world economy. The West is rushing ahead in an express train, while we are steaming ahead in a goods carriage. I believe that our near future mainly depends on what happens to the Soviet Union's economy. The immense country as a whole will not be able to overcome the crisis soon. Its individual regions should be granted freedom to develop faster".

The new economy minister stresses the need to launch the market economy as soon as possible. A number of laws have already been adopted to ensure the growth of enterprising initiative. They deal with property and kinds of enterprises, including private and joint stock societies. A serious obstacle, as Leiman sees it, is posed by the lack of specific tax rates and the inadequate credit and banking system.

The newly-formed Estonian cabinet is described by some people as a "crisis government". But the economics minister believes that logic alone is not enough to explain and change everything. There is some unknown quantity that will help the Estonian economy overcome the crisis. This may be found in a specific programme of the repubic's economic development and the contribution from the population of Estonia, who have experienced many hardships and are eager to see radical changes.

Moscow TV Reports on Food Supply in Riga Stores

LD0805221690 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 8 May 90

[N. Kasyanova video report from Riga; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Riga stores, which even before now were not lavish in terms of abundance, have suddenly grown empty. [video shows shots of a Riga store in which refrigerators are almost empty of food products] One is confronted with the whole instability of life. People do not expect better times for themselves.

[Unidentified man] What is alarming is that there is a certain panic among people caused by the fact we don't have enough matches and everything is being gathered up, stocked up. It's understandable. But a month will go by and then everything will sort itself out.

[Store assistant] Well, you can see for yourself. What is there to say?

[V.I. Alksnis, USSR people's deputy] Unfortunately, the situation is very complicated and ambiguous. The declaration of independence adopted by the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet has created a blind alley situation. It contradicts the existing Constitution of the Latvian SSR. Its adoption was accompanied by the violation of procedure. Unfortunately, this (?declaration) will lead to a split, a further split among the population along national lines, and to a deepening of the economic crisis in the republic. So it will have a negative influence on the development of the situation in our republic.

I would still like to hope that the factions of the People's Front will show more commonsense and take account of reality. I hope that we will nevertheless be able to overcome our problems and to organize the constructive work of the Supreme Soviet and in the first instance to direct our work toward the adoption of realistic and constructive decisions in the first instance in the economy.

[D. Ivans, first deputy chairman of the Latvian Supreme Soviet] I regard the situation very optimistically because on the streets of Riga, Latvia, and in meetings with voters I nevertheless see that the people are happy and pleased despite the very great difficulties we are experiencing, especially in the economy. But we are certain that the decision, the decision on our independence will help us to overcome this crisis. I believe that it will be able to consolidate the various national and social groups of the republic.

Latvia's Future State Structures Examined

PM0405114990 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 May 90 First Edition p3

[Correspondent Lieutenant Colonel M. Ziyeminsh report: "Latvia: Nostalgia for What?"]

[Text] Riga—The first session of the republic's new Supreme Soviet began its work in Riga 3 May. Precisely 198 deputies took their seats in the session hall of parliament.

It has to be pointed out that the final stage of the elections to the supreme organ of state power was not a success for the Latvian People's Front, whose representatives had hitherto led confidently in the contest for deputies' mandates with their rivals from other sociopolitical organizations. They got just four of 15 deputies' seats.

Incidentally, the winners included two servicemen—Colonels V. Kostin and V. Zatuliviter.

There is extremely great interest among the public, including the foreign public, in the present session. Among the many items included on its agenda the question of Latvia's future state structure occupies a special place. Several draft declarations have been prepared in this regard. There is an ambivalent attitude toward this question in the republic.

These days the local press has published the results of a readers' poll conducted by the newspapers SOVETSKAYA MOLODEZH and LATVIJAS JAUNATNE, the Latvian Sociologists Association, and the "Public Accord" program. The following conclusion, for example, was drawn on the basis of 24,600 questionnaires: Some 92 percent of Letts and 45 percent of representatives of other nationalities advocate an independent Latvia.

But here is the opinion in this regard of one of those who recently waged a struggle for a people's deputy's mandate—Stanislav Buka.

"A strange complex of nostalgia for the future has appeared in the republic," he said. "On the one hand, this is an attempt to go back 50-60 years and, on the other, to transfer all this into the future. It seems to some people that a happy future will at once ensue after a political decision. But in the economy nothing happens 'at once,' nor in society either... It takes time even to destroy it, and far more to build it. Without taking this into account, it is possible to lose very badly."

In the opinion of specialists, the course of the new parliament's work and of the decisions to be adopted by it, particularly with regard to questions of the future state structure, citizenship, and a number of others, will also be influenced by the decisions of the "Congress of Citizens of the Latvian Republic," which concluded its work on the eve of the Supreme Soviet session.

The congress has now taken shape as an independent political structure, having proclaimed itself "the first legal representation of citizens of the Latvian republic to be created during the period of occupation." Its aim is "the restoration of the Latvian republic's legitimate state power in accordance with the 1922 Constitution." The congress also elected its executive organ—the Latvian

Committee consisting of 48 citizens and six candidate citizens (three further committee members will be elected in overseas organizations). Account must be taken here of the fact that 17 "Citizens Congress" deputies will operate officially on the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet as people's deputies elected with full rights.

It would be interesting to know how the congress will cooperate with the republic's newly elected parliament. A special resolution has been adopted in this regard. It points out, in particular, that the congress deems it possible to cooperate with the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet "in resolving questions aimed at restoring the independence of the state power of the Latvian republic." And here, word for word, is how it sees this cooperation: "By creating working groups (commissions) on parity principles to examine individual problems and draw up legislative acts in the transitional period; by sending representatives to hold talks with the USSR Government on the basis of Articles 2 and 3 of the peace treaty concluded between Soviet Russia and the Latvian republic in 1920, participating in the organization of elections to the Seimas in accordance with the 1922 Constitution, taking measures to end the draft of citizens of the Latvian republic into the USSR Armed Forces, participating in the creation of Latvia's army, police, and border service, helping to end the activity of the CPSU and other USSR organizations in Latvia, helping to investigate crimes against the Latvian republic and its citizens, and participating in the resolution of questions connected with the denationalization of property and the creation of a convertible currency system."

It seems to me that this is the answer to the question: Nostalgia for what?

Latvian Law on 'Crimes Against State' Changes

90UN1325A Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA
in Russian 20 Apr 90 p 1

[Law of the Latvian SSR "On Amendments and Additions to the Latvian SSR Criminal, Criminal Procedure, and Corrective Labor Codes"]

[Text] In accordance with the 8 April 1989 USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ukase "On Amendments and Additions to the USSR Law 'On Criminal Liability for Crimes against the State' and Other USSR Legislative Enactments," and the USSR law of 31 July 1989 "On Confirming the 8 April 1989 Ukase of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium 'On Changes and Amendments to the USSR Law On Criminal Liability for Crimes against the State'" and the 16 May 1989 USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ukase "On Introducing Changes to Article 29 of the Fundamentals of Corrective Labor Legislation in the USSR and the Union Republics," the Latvian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet resolves as follows:

I. To introduce into the Latvian SSR Criminal Code the following changes and amendments:

1. To make Article 65 read as follows:

"Article 65. Calls for the violent overthrow of or changes to the Soviet state and social order.

"Public calls for the violent overthrow of or changes to the Soviet state and social order as laid down in the Latvian SSR Constitution, and also the spreading of such material for this purpose—

"shall be punishable by deprivation of freedom for a term up to three years or a fine of up to R2,000.

"Actions covered by parts 1 and 2 of this article committed on instructions from foreign organizations or their representatives—

"shall be punishable by deprivation of freedom for a term up to 10 years."

2. To make Article 69 read as follows:

"Article 69. Violation of national or racial equality.

"Deliberate actions aimed at inciting national or racial enmity or dissension or disparaging national honor or dignity, and equally direct or indirect restriction of rights or the establishment of direct or indirect privileges for citizens depending on their racial or national affiliation—

"shall be punishable by deprivation of freedom for a term up to three years or a fine up to R2,000.

"The same actions combined with violence, deceit or threats, and likewise such actions committed by an official—

"shall be punishable by deprivation of freedom for a term up to five years or a fine up to R5,000.

"Actions covered by parts 1 and 2 of this article committed by a group or involving people's deaths or other serious consequences—

"shall be punishable by deprivation of freedom for a term up to 10 years."

3. To add the following Article 65.1:

"Article 65.1. Calls to betray the motherland or commit an act of terrorism or sabotage—

"shall be punishable by deprivation of freedom for a term up to three years or a fine up to R2,000."

4. In part 2 of Article 7.1, after the words "especially dangerous crimes against the state (Articles 59-68)" the words "violation of national or racial equality (Article 69 parts 2 and 3)" shall be added.

5. To delete from part 1 of Article 59 the words "flight abroad or refusal to return to the USSR from abroad."

6. To delete Article 183.1.

II. To make the following changes to the Latvian SSR Criminal Procedure Code:

1. Part 2 of Article 134 shall read as follows:

"The period of investigation may be extended for one month by the procurator overseeing an investigation if the investigator shows motivating cause. Further extension of a period of investigation may be permitted in a particularly complex investigation by the Latvian SSR Procurator, the military procurator of a branch of the USSR Armed Forces, district, group of forces or fleet or by a procurator attached to them, and by a transport procurator acting with the rights of an oblast procurator, or their deputies.

2. Article 134 part 4 shall be amended as follows:

"The time allowed for a defendant and his defender to familiarize themselves with the material in a criminal case shall not be deducted from the period of the investigation."

3. In part 3 of Article 127 the words "articles 59-65" shall be deleted and the words "Articles 59-65.1" inserted.

4. The number "183.1" shall be deleted from Article 32 and part 3 of Article 127.

III. Part 5 of Article 55 of the Latvian SSR Corrective Labor Code shall be deemed to be no longer in force.

IV. In connection with the changes in the Latvian SSR Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code, the following shall be deemed to be no longer in force:

1. Article 5 of the 21 August 1961 Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ukase "On Changes and Additions to the Latvian SSR Criminal Code" (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA I PRAVITELSTVA LATVIYSKOY SSR No 35, 1961) made to Article 65 of the Latvian SSR Criminal Code.

2. The 11 October 1966 Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ukase "On Additions to Articles 183.1, 183.2 and 183.3 of the Latvian SSR Criminal Code" (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA I PRAVITELSTVA LATVIYSKOY SSR No 42, 1966) made additionally to Article 183.3 of the Latvian SSR Criminal Code.

3.Article 1 of the 11 October 1966 Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ukase "On Changes to Articles 32 and 127 of the Latvian SSR Criminal Procedure Code (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA I PRAVITELSTVA LATVIYSKOY SSR No 42, 1966) with respect to conducting the preliminary investigation in criminal cases pertaining to crimes covered in Article 183.3 of the Latvian SSR Criminal Code, and Article 2 of the same ukase with respect to passing criminal cases pertaining to these crimes to the Latvian SSR Supreme Court.

4. Article 85 of the 30 December 1982 Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ukase "On Changes and Amendments to the Latvian SSR Criminal Code (VEDOMOSTI VERKHOVNOGO SOVETA I PRAVITELSTVA LATVIYSKOY SSR No 52, 1982) with respect to Article 183.1 of the Latvian SSR Criminal Code.

[Signed] A. GORBUNOV, chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.
I. DAUDISH, secretary of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.
Riga, 1 March 1990.

Scandinavian Airlines Bureau Opens in Riga

LD2604225390 Moscow TASS in English 2046 GMT 26 Apr 90

[By LETA-TASS correspondent David Gefter]

[Text] Riga April 27 TASS—A Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) bureau has opened in the Latvian capital in view of the establishment of a Riga-Copenhagen two-way air service.

"Our airliners make two flights a week to Riga—on Wednesday and Saturdays—while Latvian liners fly to Denmark on Fridays and Mondays," said Marke Pedersen, head of the SAS bureau. "This is already a third SAS bureau in the Soviet Union after those in Moscow and Tallinn."

The SAS bureau is planning to open a shop at the Riga airport in May. SAS has contracted with Latvian authorities to reconstruct a Riga hotel to accommodate passengers arriving from Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

The bureau advantageously differs from Aeroflot in the level of service: within seconds it is possible to contact Copenhagen and Stockholm from the bureau and get up-to-the-minute information on all matters concerning the functioning of the air service.

Immediately upon being established, the air service has become popular—tickets for Riga-Copenhagen flights have been sold out for three months' in advance.

The Latvian capital is now linked by air services with Helsinki and Stockholm as well. These airways are served by Aeroflot liners.

RSFSR

Further Reporting on Gorbachev Plant Visit

PM0805131190 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 May 90 Second Edition pp 1, 3

[TASS report: "Checking the Time of Perestroyka"]

[Text] Moscow, 7 May—The party organization at the "Vtoroy Chasovoy Zavod" Moscow Production Association is the largest production association in Frunzenskiy Rayon's No. 4 Electoral District. M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR president, has been nominated as a candidate delegate to the 28th party congress from this district. He met with the enterprise's communists and labor collective today.

You probably think, Mikhail Sergeyevich told the workers at the plant entrance, that I've come here to reduce the chances of success of my rival—V.N. Baranov, shop chief at the association, whom you have nominated. No, I've come to discuss current affairs, current concerns, and the fact that we should all check the time of perestroyka together.

V.M. Korolev, general director of the association, invited M.S. Gorbachev to view an exhibition of the enterprise's output. "Slava" brand timepieces are currently shipped to dozens of countries on all continents. Last year alone 1.2 million timepieces were exported—this represents almost 40 percent of output. M.S. Gorbachev expressed satisfaction with the fact that almost all the foreign exchange earned from exports goes on the acquisition of new technological equipment rather than on the purchase of imported linen and cosmetics.

Indeed, even a quick glance around the quality-control and testing section of Shop No. 19 shows that the bulk of the jewelry assembly and control equipment is produced by foreign plants. This area of work must be rapidly rectified too, M.S. Gorbachev advised, although the main contribution in this area will be made by machine builders.

I have a question for you personally, assembly worker G.V. Stepacheva said to Mikhail Sergeyevich. We are all grateful for one of your first presidential acts, she said—the mother and child protection act. But nothing's gotten going yet—either in the kindergartens, the hospitals, or the stores.

I think that this represents a breakdown in procedure [neporyadok], M.S. Gorbachev replied. The draft I submitted to the Supreme Soviet is, of course, a long-term program and an action plan for the next five-year plan. As for acute problems and urgent matters—in particular, improving women's working conditions and privileges for mothers with large families—these should be tackled straightaway by the trade unions and management.

At every shop and section which Mikhail Sergeyevich visited workers and specialists talked about the problems of particular concern to them today. The most frequently mentioned bottlenecks in perestroyka were the empty shelves in the stores and the many years' wait on housing lists.

"I want to reaffirm the intention I announced at my meetings in Sverdlovsk," M.S. Gorbachev said, "to give the housing program its second wind. Believe me, this is the most acute problem of the day for me as president."

In the No. 3 Mechanical Shop Mikhail Sergeyevich was welcomed by his rival—V.N. Baranov. They toured the shop together, chatted with workers, and moved to the association's assembly hall to meet with the enterprise's communists. At the meeting M.S. Gorbachev, who was nominated as a candidate by the party organizations at the "Bolshevik" and "Yava" factories and the IZVESTIYA Publishing House and Printing Works, talked about the key problems in renewing Soviet society, about the Communist Party's role and place in this process, and about everything that is currently of most concern to people, gives rise to heated disputes, and produces doubts and hopes.

The general secretary replied to numerous questions from the association's communists. These concerned the content and meaning of the CPSU Central Committee letter, the formation of a Russian Communist Party, the problem of a multiparty system in general, interethnic relations, the Lithuania situation, cooperation with the countries of East Europe, the position of women in the country, the activity of the new Moscow City Soviet, and the improvement of the electoral system.

One of the questions concerned a regulated market economy. Just what is this and how will it affect our budget, particularly people with fixed incomes?

First, Mikhail Sergeyevich said, it must be borne in mind that the market is not a capitalist invention, since many people believe that the move we are making toward a market is some kind of retrograde move toward a capitalist economic system and a capitalist system in general. No, the market existed back in Ancient Rome. It is an environment in which interests are realized, commodities compared, and the needs of whole regions and individuals thereby mutually satisfied.

Second, what does planned regulation mean? It means that we will regulate the situation through fiscal policy and through policy as a whole. The path to a full market will be long. In the first stage we will retain control of the most important types of output—particularly foodstuffs.

One other point. We will have to ensure that everyone on a fixed wage receives direct compensation. In the developed capitalist countries wages rise along with the prices index. We should think through the whole system of social protection when embarking on a market economy. This process will not be painless, of course. But I think that we will be able to do everything in such a way as to travel this path with the fewest losses possible.

We are now probably going through a most complex process, M.S. Gorbachev went on to say. Fundamental changes in the economy are taking place. We are in the run-up to the 28th CPSU Congress, the party itself is being reformed, turbulent discussions are under way, and positions are being clarified. All this is being done so as to arrive at the communists' forum with definite results which would make it possible to elaborate good documents and a party program. This program will help the people to gain a better understanding of the goals and tasks of the CPSU and to promote the consolidation of our entire society.

The visit to the clock and watch plant, this TASS correspondent was told by Yu.A. Prokofyev, first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom [city party committee], was a continuation of the series of meetings between Communist Party leaders and the capital's communists and labor collectives. As is well known, during the precongress campaign such meetings have already been held by N.I. Ryzhkov, E.A. Shevardnadze, and A.N. Yakovlev, and they have vividly demonstrated that the democratization process in our party is already a reality. Ordinary communists can now determine their position for themselves and decide whether or not to elect the general secretary or a Politburo member as delegates to the Congress. The process of party renewal that is taking place will make it possible to bridge the gap which, to put it bluntly, has emerged between the party leadership and the party masses. All the previous meetings—and today's is no exception—have been typified by an atmosphere of frankness and mutual interest. Communists are talking about the situation in the country and the party without slogans and appeals, and are discussing ways out of the prevailing situation.

Moscow City Official Addresses News Conference

PM0105154990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 2

[G. Ivanov-Smolenskiy reports: "Position of Moscow City Party Committee"]

[Text] Three main questions were raised at the news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists given 27 April by Yu.A. Prokofyev, first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom [city party committee]: the gorkom's relations with Moscow City Soviet of Workers' Deputies [Mossovet], the forthcoming May Day celebration in Moscow, and the election of delegates to the 28th CPSU Congress and the city party conference.

Social time is filled to the limit nowadays, and the leader of a political organization is often allotted a finite number of days to coordinate, or even to revise altogether, his position on extremely substantive questions. Is it many days, for instance, since the beginning of the current session of Mossovet when, during a recess, Yu.A. Prokofyev suggested that the communist deputies belonging to the "Democratic Russia" bloc give some thought to their membership of the CPSU? The gorkom's opinion of blocs remained unchanged: They lead away from specific practical business toward political infighting. But the appraisal of the session so far is unambiguously positive. It has already performed the important task of forming the leading organs. And performed it democratically, too. As for complaints about delays in its work, they are entirely natural: The deputies are acclimatizing, getting to know one another; it would be naive to expect solutions to the city's extremely critical economic problems straight off.

In general, the first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom emphasized, he sees relations with Mossovet as exceptionally constructive. He does not consider himself leader of the "Moscow" bloc, but he recognizes its formation as a necessary answer to "Democratic Russia." In the opinion of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom first secretary, the deeper Mossovet plunges into the prosaic routine of daily business, the more the borders between the blocs will be obliterated.

The most democratic forms are being proposed for the gorkom's participation in the work of Mossovet. "As the organ of political leadership," Prokofyev said, "Moscow Gorkom, defending the interests of the working people, will submit proposals at this session, and drafts for improving the life of Muscovites. Even before the session we examined in the gorkom bureau a draft Law on the Status of Moscow as the Capital." It is aimed at protecting the city from the tyranny of the departments. We will now submit the bill at the Mossovet session."

The repeal of Article 6 of the Constitution and the gradual progress toward genuine political pluralism are beginning to tell more and more on the financial and economic relations of the CPSU and soviet power. "Under a one-party system the division of property between the party and the soviets did not provoke questions. Everyone lived together. Now however, when the soviets are expressing the viewpoint of more than just the party alone, when we have adopted the Law on Ownership, the need to divide property has arisen. We are sharing it according to the contribution of each side. Of the 33 Moscow raykom [rayon party committee] buildings, 30 were constructed on an equal basis. For example, in Oktyabrskiy Rayon, one-third of the money was provided by the party. So we shared out like this: two of the four floors for the raykom, the other two, plus the hall, for the ispolkom [executive committee]. But, for instance, the premises of the Sociopolitical Center were erected and have always been maintained on party money, as have the publishing houses. Judging by everything, incidentally, one practical step in our future collaboration will be gorkom assistance in setting up Mossovet's own newspaper. Moscow Gorkom's Administration of Affairs has already been instructed 'to allocate premises from those used by party publications.' A reassuring fact, of course. But, on the other hand, it reminds us once again of the authority that the soviet power possessed for long years, and how much more it will have to do to really stand on its own two feet.

"We have also been discussing with Gavriil Kharitonovich Popov and Sergey Borisovich Stankevich, the new leaders of Mossovet, how to celebrate May Day in Moscow," Prokofyev told the news conference. "This year it will differ from previous festivities. The leaders of Moscow's trade unions suggested holding a rally in Red Square, while Mossovet suggested holding a parade [demonstratsiya]. A compromise decision was taken—to hold both. First, a short rally will be held at which the participants will arrive not in their 'rayon' columns as in the past but as representatives of the sectors of the national economy, each sector with its own slogans. The rally will adopt its own resolution. Then between 10:30 and 10:40 the parade will begin. There will be no overorganization this time. All representatives of working people, electoral clubs, or social organizations wishing to take part in the parade will do so. The length of the procession will depend on how many people there are wishing to participate, but by decision of the Council of Ministers it must finish by 1300 hours. Individual May Day meetings will be held as well in the different Moscow rayons."

Yu.A. Prokofyev and V.V. Kotov, first deputy head of a gorkom department, related how the elections to the 28th CPSU Congress and to the city party conference are being carried out in Moscow. There is great distrust between the party masses and the leading organs, it was noted in the news conference. The effort to remove this was the reason for the democratic approach to the elections—they will be direct, secret, multicandidate elections, by party districts. In Moscow, six districts are constituted as territorial districts, whereas in the majority of rayons they are constituted on the production principle. Of the 233 districts, 217 are single-seat districts. Some 281 delegates have to be elected for the party congress, and 1,760 candidates have registered—an average of six to seven for each seat. Among the candidates are 317 party committee secretaries, about 500 economic leaders, and only 87 workers. Roughly the same correlation exists with the 2,682 candidates for the 1,063 seats in the elections of city party conference delegates.

The multicandidate cup will not pass from anyone this time around. Thus in Frunzenskiy Rayon's No. 4 district V.N. Baranov, head of a Second Clock Factory shop, will be running against M.S. Gorbachev. In Leningradskiy Rayon N.I. Ryzhkov has five competitors. In Khoroshevskiy Rayon A.N. Yakovlev has 73 (!) rivals. The Central Committee secretary got through the first round with the greatest number of votes, 38 percent. V.N. Shestakovskiy, rector of the Moscow Higher Party School, has been nominated as candidate from among the leaders of the Democratic Platform.

To a question about his attitude toward the precongress platforms Prokofyev replied that, in his opinion, there is something in all of them to take for a common party platform. From Democratic Platform—democratic intraparty principles; from the Platform of the Marxist circles—evaluations of the party's social base and of the causes which led to the crisis; from the CPSU Central Committee Platform—questions of the building [postroyeniye] of the party and of the economic reform in society. The draft of the Moscow party organization's position, which will be discussed in primary organizations and at a plenum of Moscow Gorkom, draws on much in these platforms.

The following statistic was cited at the meeting with journalists: In the first three months of this year, 6,000 people have left the ranks of the Communist Party in Moscow. The first secretary of the largest city party organization in the country explained this as follows: "Over the years many people joined the party out of mercenary motives, seeking to make a career for themselves. We admitted people to the party also to guarantee its social composition. Now, when leaving the party no longer has political consequences, it is these people who constitute the majority of those leaving the CPSU. Very many of them are of declining years, have not worked for a long time, and have lost touch with party organizations. But those leaving for ideological considerations are individual cases. They divide roughly in two—those dissatisfied with the slowness of reforms, and those dissatisfied with the reforms themselves."

As for the recent letter from the CPSU Central Committee, in Prokofyev's opinion it is often wrongly interpreted. It should not be perceived as a call for reprisals against people with different views. Corroboration of this is the fact that only one person has been expelled in Moscow, out of 1.14 million communists. The letter contained only the Central Committee's viewpoint on events and trends in the party. However, continued Yuriy Anatolyevich, there are people adhering to positions dictated by political ambitions, people for whom the changes themselves are unimportant.

Bloc Member Interviewed on Moscow Soviet

90UN1596B Moscow VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA in Russian 9 Apr 90 p 1

[Report on interview with S.B. Stankevich, member of the Democratic Russia bloc, USSR and Moscow Soviet people's deputy, by unidentified VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA correspondent]

[Text] A VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA correspondent met with S.B. Stankevich, a member of the Democratic Russia bloc, USSR peoples' deputy, and Moscow Soviet deputy, and asked him to answer some questions submitted by VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA readers.

[Correspondent] What tasks do you set yourselves now?

[Stankevich] We must prepare well for our first session and conduct it in an organized manner. They say that the way you start is the way it is going to go. It is important to set the tone for the principally new, I hope, work of the Moscow Soviet.

First, we have to deal with some organizational problems: We will have to elect the chairman of the soviet, an assistant chairman, and the presidium; we will have to form permanent deputies' commissions and, maybe, committees which did not exist before.

Besides, we want to resolve some quite concrete problems at the very first session. A special group for emergency measures has been created within the organization committee which should consider various items such as, for instance, use of non-residential buildings. The school situation is rather serious in Moscow. In some schools they have classes in two or three shifts. The situation is difficult with maternity hospitals and kindergartens. We will try to find some buildings that they can move into right now. In various areas of Moscow we will also try to open for public use some restricted access hospitals and dispensaries that had been assigned to a small group of people. Their construction is close to completion now.

We intend to find at least a partial solution for the problem of consumer goods supplies. Even the few goods we have at present can be distributed in a more sensible way. These are our social and economic tasks.

I think we will have to revise some current names of streets and squares. Generally, of course, we would aim to restore their historic names. But we want to do the first change right away—to rename Pelshe Street as Academician Sakharov Street. It leads to Vostryakovskoye Cemetery where Andrey Dmitriyevich is buried. And this change is of a symbolic nature.

[Correspondent] Some readers of VECHERNYAYA MOSKVA were distressed by the news of factions being formed in the Moscow Soviet. Is it possible that rivalry between the factions would distract the deputies from their immediate work?

[Stankevich] Let us consider this. Until now there were no blocs in the Moscow Soviet and there was no rivalry. But were Muscovites satisfied with its work? It is easy for the people to see how the city problems were solved—they just have to walk out into the streets. We wish to break the wicked tradition of the soviets doing nothing. For that purpose only we have formed the pre-election bloc "Democratic Russia" which is now a deputies' bloc.

The interests of the people of Moscow are indivisible. All of us, whatever bloc we side with, are facing the same residential, ecological, trade, service, and other problems. As long as the deputies try to resolve these problems as well and as fast as they can nobody would think of the barriers between the factions, I can assure you of this. But if we notice any attempts to stop the action or to reverse it our bloc will decisively confront them. We do not want a confrontation in anything else.

New Moscow-Area Radio Station Goes on Air

LD0105201390

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 1 May, during its "Vremya" newscast, carries an A. Sturua report over video on a new radio station called "Europe plus Moscow," which went on the air on the eve of the May Day holiday. Announcers are observed making an opening announcement in French and Russian. Sturua says this is not surprising since the first commercial radio station in the USSR, "Europe plus the USSR," was set up by the USSR Gosteleradio and the French "Europe plus France" company. It is planned that the new station will acquaint Soviet listeners with the latest pop music, cultural events, and entertainment, as well as advertising. For the moment, the new station will cover only Moscow and Moscow oblast on 69.8 MHz stereo, but the reception area will be increased in the future.

Preparations Continue for Russian Congress

LD0805122890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1115 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Moscow, 8 May (TASS)—TASS correspondent Lev Aksenov reports:

In a few days time, on 16 May, the first congress of people's deputies of the Russian Federation, the largest Soviet Union republic, will start work here. Work to prepare for the congress is coming to an end but to date no one can give a precise agenda for the forthcoming sitting.

As the TASS correspondent was told today at the press group of the secretariat of the Russian Supreme Soviet, a conference of delegation representatives is to start work in Moscow on 10 May. The norms of representation have been established: one person for every five deputies. A preparation commission made up of people's deputies of the republic has done a great deal of work. An attempt was made to reach a single opinion on the agenda during three plenary sittings and at the sittings of the six sub-commissions. The urgent nature of the debates is attested by the fact that a conciliation commission had to be created, which has made a great contribution to working out proposals for the agenda.

Russia's people's deputies have to elect a chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet, a first deputy chairman and deputy chairman. Elections of the Supreme Soviet should then follow. It is expected that there will be a break in the work of the congress, during which Russia's new parliament will meet in its first session. The members of parliament will examine the question of a candidate for the post of premier of the republic, and then the participants in the congress will move to discussions of the matter of Russia's social and economic situation and will endorse a chairman of the Council of Ministers. It is also intended to include the issue of sovereignty for Russia within a renewed federation of Union republics on the agenda.

Such is the approximate agenda intended to be put to the consideration of the confrerence of delegation representatives. Naturally, no one sees these sketches as dogma, so that for the moment it is difficult even to say how many days the first congress will last.

Russian Social Democrats Offer Opposition

PM0905084190 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 90 p 1

[S. Sokolov report: "A Party According to Plekhanov"]

[Text] "Only a totally democratic state can effect an economic turnaround that conforms with the interests of producers..." is what G.V. Plekhanov, the founder of Russian social democracy, wrote in 1884 while an emigre abroad. A whole century had to pass before supporters of Plekhanov's ideas gathered in Moscow openly for their organizational revival. The sentence quoted above from the "Liberation of Labor" group's program has been logically extended in the Social Democratic Party of the Russian Federation declaration.

The new social democrats will make every effort to help establish a civil society in Russia. Only that kind of society can, in their view, settle the problems of the market, inflation, unemployment, and ethnic relations. The Social Democratic Party of Russia does not claim that its ideas and accomplishments are universally accepted or that it holds sway over the people's masses in their millions. Like any other parliamentary party, the social democrats intend to implement their policy via municipal and parliamentary organs of power, relying on voters' support.

They do, incidentally, have every opportunity to do this: There are quite a large number of rayon and city soviet deputies among the 209 congress delegates from 74 local social democratic organizations. The following leaders of the emergent parties are also people's deputies of various levels: O. Rumyantsev, K. Yankov, A. Obolenskiy, N. Tutov.... Thus it is likely that social democratic factions will emerge in the soviets in the near future.

"Our country's trouble is that there have always been a large number of people dying for power, but only a few people who consistently uphold democratic principles," Professor S. Dzarasov, head of the USSR Academy of Sciences political economy department and member of a social democratic association, explained the absence of a new party from other movements at the congress. "We must no longer exclaim—as we did formerly—the following in our country today: 'That's the party!' (capable of solving all the problems). Neither the Social Democrats, nor the communists, nor other social forces can be this kind of party now. It is only by joining forces over a 'roundtable' that something may turn up for all of us."

As in the past, the social democrats intend to be a constructive political opposition to the ruling party. They hope that they will be helped in this by the experience of world social democracy, especially since the Russian Social Democrats intend to become members of the Socialist International again soon.

Problems of New Leningrad Soviet Viewed

18120117B Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 15, 22-29 Apr 90 pp 9-10

[Article by Yuri Kirillov and Yuri Kupin, MOSCOW NEWS correspondents. "Leningrad's New Parliament"]

[Text] We have reason to speak of a revolutionary situation in Leningrad. There is also stubborn resistance to the deputies elected by the people.

The former fathers of the city, having lost the elections, very politely say that they are ready to hand over the reins at once. But at the same time they so ably block each step of the deputies that they come up against a thick wall all the time.

You need a TV screen for speeches? Please. The only trouble is that recently the chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Television and Radio Broadcasting came to Leningrad and we've nearly reached agreement with him to make Leningrad TV a part of Central TV. Therefore, you'll have to get permission from Moscow now.

The deputies decided to publish their programmes in Leningradskaya Pravda? What bad luck—the bureau of the Regional Party Committee has only just reconsidered the list of the patrons of the paper and has removed the regional and city Soviets of People's Deputies from their number. By the way, there is a plan to put the entire Lenizdat publishers under direct control of the CPSU Central Committee.

But don't worry—we're in full support of the slogan "All Power to the Soviets!" True, as of old, we wanted to set up a Party group in these Soviets. But for some reason the majority of deputies did not accept the purity of our ideas. It wouldn't be a bad idea to check the colour of their Party cards.

There is a lot of serious thought going on in Smolny. TV sets are switched on from early morning—the work of the session is being broadcast directly. For the first time the Party apparat, used to different meetings, looks at all this from afar. And on our screens God knows what is going on—the hall is boiling with passions, long lines queue up to the microphones and regulations are ignored.

Speeches on Leningrad's socio-economic situation have been heard, on the problems of health protection and housing construction, on the state of the city's historical buildings and the new concept of economic reform. Voluminous files of statistics have been distributed. The more information floods in, the clearer it becomes that the deputies have a somewhat joyless heritage.

Out of the 373 elected Lensoviet deputies whose authority was confirmed by the credential commission, 351 people have joined a City Soviet for the first time. There is no sign of the notorious "unanimity". Among the deputies are Communists adhering to the Democratic Platform, the Popular Front, the Memorial, and the Green Party, the Democratic Union and the Association of Leningrad's state enterprises. This composition consolidates differing public forces in this city of 5 million people. But something else might happen—the political polarization might divide the deputies according to different group interests. How real is this prospect?

We asked a man who had the honor of conducting the very first meeting of the new Lensoviet—Pyotr Filippov, people's deputy of the RSFSR and the City Soviet.

"No wonder we refused the proposal by Boris Gidaspov to set up a Party group in Lensoviet," he told us. "The deputies didn't think it possible to take on any obligations other than those to the electors. At the same time, any attempt to artificially limit the civic activities of Leningraders, their right to think as they wish and to unite with people who think as they do, is senseless. After all, the previous City Soviet Executive Committee stubbornly refused even to register those public movements which today are represented in our conference hall."

"What gives you optimism?"

"First of all, it is the intellectual ability of the new Lensoviet. The city parliament will be able to use independent scientific research, come to wise, realistic decisions and make sure these are carried out. As for views and convictions, I think that the development of the process of political differentiation in our society will inevitably lead to the appearance of political factions in the Soviets at all levels. And we should regard this with equanimity."

Literally two days after this conversation we learned that deputies with liberal-democratic leanings were forming a Democratic Russia bloc in the Lensoviet. Over 80 people joined it. After that an Independent Group of Deputies was formed (some 40 people with their own programme, very near to the CPSU Democratic Platform), and the setting up of the Leningrad group of independent deputies was announced.

Factionalism, the very thought of which caused horror amongst former Lensoviet deputies, seems to achieve full civil rights in the City Soviet of today. But Anatoly Sobchak, a people's deputy of the USSR, well tried in polemic battles, deemed it necessary to warn his young colleagues: "The group preferences of deputies and their political ambitions limit them to ineffective public discussions." But that was only meant as an exchange of experience.

The majority of Leningraders regard those they have elected with faith and hope. Sociological research done on the eve of the first session confirms this. The question of whether the new form of the Lensoviet will be able to solve the problems facing the city was answered in the affirmative by 41 percent of those polled, 23 percent were pessimistic. True, the reason for this is not so much in the elected deputies as in the poor state of the city.

The entire responsibility for the huge city is on the shoulders of the young deputies, including some unpopular decisions connected with the swift transfer to the market economy. And the new strategy of Leningrad's development (in the opinion of the Planning Commission this is—science-intensive production, international tourism and education). And the introduction of a genuinely democratic style in all fields of our life.

Their programme must be revolutionary in its essence, they must save the city. And their methods must also be revolutionary. That is inescapable.

Yeltsin Book To Be Published in Urals

LD0405121190 Moscow World Service in Russian 0930 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] It has been decided that the Urals region will be the first in the USSR to publish Boris Yeltsin's book "Against the Grain" ["Ispoved na Zadannuyu Temu"] which has already been published in a dozen or so countries. According to a contract signed between Yeltsin and the director of a local book publisher, the book will be published with a print run of 100,000. It will also appear in one of the issues of the URAL magazine. In his book, Yeltsin tells about his work in the Urals and in Moscow in the CPSU Central Committee and in the Moscow City Party Committee and sets out his views on the current political situation in the country and on the struggle of ideas and personalities. The author is donating royalties to the struggle against AIDS. He has done the same with remuneration from foreign agencies, donating it to the struggle against this terrible disease.

Cement Supplies to Kaliningrad Oblast Maintained

PM0905091190 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 May 90 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Deliveries Continue"]

[Text] Moscow—Cement deliveries to construction sites in Kaliningrad Oblast have fallen sharply in recent days. The USSR Gossnab [State Committee for Material and Technical Supply] announced that this is a consequence of the fact that the Akmjane cement plant in Lithuania has stopped shipping its output to its neighbors. Kaliningrad is due to receive 387,220 tonnes of cement from this supplier this year. In total, the Lithuanian enterprise should produce 3,146,000 tonnes in the course of the year.

Despite the fact that this flow has stopped, Kaliningrad Oblast will not be left without cement: The Bryansk, Starooskolskiy, Belgorod, Lipetsk, Sebryakovskiy, Zdolbunov, and Nikolayevskiy plants and the "Mordovtsement" and "Volsktsement" Associations have been reoriented to supply cement to the region. The first batches of these enterprises' output have already been dispatched to construction sites in Kaliningrad Oblast.

Floods Cause Further Damage in Bashkir

PM0805135590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 90 Second Edition p 8

[Special correspondent N. Senchev report under the "Emergency" rubric: "Wave From the Sky"]

[Text] Ufa—You can't help recalling the proverb: "Troubles come in threes." The bitterness caused by the railroad disaster when two passenger trains were burned out in a fire in the Bashkir ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] is still etched in our hearts. The consequences of the phenol pollution of Ufa's water supply system have still not been completely eliminated.... Now there is a new report: Mighty floodwaters have descended on the villages, settlements, and cities of the autonomous republic. Approximately 100 population centers have been flooded, a large number of bridges have been swept away, and lines of communication have been cut. A. Kharlov, chairman of the republic's emergency flood commission, described how the fight against the elements has been organized

[Kharlov] This has never happened in the Bashkir ASSR before. Heavy downpours of warm rain in late April-early May caused snow in the mountains in the south and east of the autonomous republic to come down rapidly. The wave of water, which raised the level of the Belaya, Yuryuzan, and Sakmar Rivers and their tributaries to an unprecedented height, emerged onto the plain, flooding and destroying many houses and enterprise production buildings. Crops, livestock farms, highways, and electricity and telephone lines suffered tremendous damage. The storm damage is colossal too. There have been casualties.

[Senchev] Can the storm be said to have died down?

[Kharlov] Of course, the head of water is abating. But it is moving toward Ufa. Dozens of population centers could find themselves and have already found themselves in its destructive path. That is why people are urgently being evacuated and livestock are being taken to safe places. These are necessary measures. In Beloretsk, for instance, floodwater has inundated the metallurgical enterprise's workshops and land belonging to a tractor suspension plant is now under water. Eyewitnesses attest that many homes in the republic's rayons were carried away by the water like matchwood. The storm has not affected Ufa. There is a system of reservoirs around the city. The floodwater will be absorbed by regulating the water level in these reservoirs.

[Senchev] Who is involved in eliminating the aftermath of the storm?

[Kharlov] The entire Bashkir ASSR. Help is coming in from neighboring oblasts. Military and civilian pilots have shown themselves bold and organized. Medicines, food, warm clothing, and tents can only be gotten to some disaster areas by helicopter. What is more, a combined convoy of all-terrain vehicles has been set up in the republic. They are being used to deliver essentials to the affected population.

Account No. 700510 has been opened at the republic's Agro-Industrial Bank and individual citizens, institutions, and organizations have transferred money there to aid the victims. But government support from Moscow is clearly late. Even the medicines that were promised by the USSR Council of Ministers in connection with the phenol contamination of drinking water sources have scarcely started to arrive in the Bashkir ASSR. The need for medicines has worsened still further now that one disaster has been followed by another.

Casualties Reported

LD0805224890 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Heavy flooding continues in Bashkiriya, caused by continuing rain and by abundant snow melting in the southern Urals. What is the situation like in the republic today? Correspondent Madril Gafurov answered this question over the phone:

[Begin Gafurov recording] The consequences of the ecological catastrophe in Ufa, when almost 600,000 Ufa citizens were left without any drinking water as a result of the fact that phenol discharge from the territory of the "Khimprom" production association found its way into the local water-pipes, have not been eliminated yet, but the raging elements are preparing another blow for Ufa. Powerful flows of mountain water, which for several days poured through the gorges of the southern Urals, sweeping off bridges, structures, power transmission lines on its way, now having broken loose from the mountains, are heading irrepressibly along the flat part of Bashkiriya toward its central densely populated areas. Imagine an avalanche, up to 100 km long and four-eight km wide, containing 200-250 million cubic meters of water. This avalanche is moving at a speed of up to 10 km per hour.

Fifteen rural rayons and six towns were subjected to flooding, comprising all in all 104 inhabited localities and 12,000 houses. About 20,000 inhabitants were evacuated, while 60,000 remain in the flooded area. Damage amounting to R9.5 million was caused to the national economy in Beloretsk city alone.

Roads and some railway beds are washed away, 14 people perished, lost without trace.

Certainly various all possible help to all the damaged areas and to its inhabitants is on its way. Food products, warm clothes, and medicines are being delivered by helicopters, airplanes and, since yesterday, by motor transportation. Help is also coming from outside Bashkiriya. For instance, the "Kazakhstan" Komsomol [All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League] assigned 230 easily assembled tents.

The Belaya River is expected to rise to its maximum level within the city to up to nine meters if it does not turn out to be possible to reduce this level by 60 centimeters through the Pavlovskoye reservoir, which is situated on the Ufa River, the main tributary of the Belaya River. However, even today a lot of houses in Ufa, which are situated not on the plateau but in the lowlands, are flooded and submerged. There is also an immense number of gardens under water.

First Quarter Economic Results Reported

LD0405115490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] State Committee for Statstics summed up this year's first quarter results. It is reported that measures to reprofile the economy to cater for the development of the social sphere and to increase the production of consumer goods were undertaken in the RSFSR. Compared with the same period last year, the production of consumer goods has increased by 5.8 percent. It is stated in the report that it was not possible to achieve steady work in this branch of the economy. National income has decreased and inflation has reached more than seven percent.

Western Republics

Founding Group for Civil Action Committee Meets

LD0605225190 Kiev International Service in Ukrainian 1700 GMT 5 May 90

[Text] A meeting of an initiative group for the creation of an all-Union Civil Action [hromadyanska diya] committee has got under way today in Kiev. Members of the interregional group of USSR People's Deputies, together with public and political democratically and radically orientated movements from various republics, initiated the creation of the committee. One of the tasks laid down by the initiative group for creating this committee is the establishment of a coordinating center of a political coalition of the country's democratic forces. For its part, such a center must arrange roundtable talks between representatives of the authorities and opposition. Representatives of various parties and movements from the Ukraine, Russia, Azerbaijan, Latvia, Armenia, Georgia, Uzbekistan, and also Lithuania, are taking part in the meeting.

Kirovograd Oblast Replaces First Secretary

PM2704112990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Apr 90 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] Kirovograd, 26 Apr—A plenum of Kirovograd Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom [Oblast Party Committee] has been held to examine an organizational question.

The plenum satisfied N.I. Samilyk's request to be relieved of his duties as party obkom first secretary in connection with his reassignment. Ye.V. Marmazov, who had been obkom second secretary, was elected first secretary of Kirovograd Party Obkom by secret ballot from among three candidates.

Change in Election Procedures for Kiev Soviet

PM2304091390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent Sergey Tsikora report: "Mayor and His Team"]

[Text] Kiev—The new Kiev City Soviet has set a "record"—it was only on day 14 of the sittings that the deputies finally started discussing the first point on the agenda: the election of the soviet chairman.

The scales of equilibrium shuddered when, of the two draft provisions on the local soviet chairman and presidium, the deputies opted for the document compiled by Deputy N. Grabar rather than that recommended by the Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Presidium. The 28-year-old lawyer and senior assistant at the rayon prosecutor's office had proposed a provision containing a fundamentally new approach.

The deputies from the "democratic bloc" upheld the two main points on which the entire document was actually based. The essence of the first point was that henceforth the soviet chairman, to be chosen in a contested election, will not form his "team" on his own. All deputies, not just the chairman, will now be entitled to make nominations for membership of the city soviet presidium. The second point is that city soviet presidium members have become full-time workers—they must all leave their former jobs. This provision is, for the time being, unprecedented for local self-government and will have far-reaching ramifications, since it eliminates a whole institution of honorary jobs.

Discussion of the candidates' platforms and professional qualities has begun.

Investigation Shows Radar Facility Harmless

PM3004131790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 6

[Interview with ecological commission members A. Kuzmin and Aviation Colonel General V. Kraskovskiy by N. Burbyga under the rubric "Rumors and Facts": "Radio Signal Repulsed by Public Opinion"]

[Text] As has been reported in IZVESTIYA (No 59, 1990), the construction of the major radar station outside the village of Pestryalovo, in Transcarpathian Oblast, was suspended at the end of February. A commission, led by Academician Ye. Velikhov, was set up to assess the socioecological situation in the vicinity of Mukhachevo and the effect of the new radar station on the populace and the environment. The commission members are scientific and technical experts from the USSR Academy of Sciences, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Academy of Sciences, the USSR Defense Ministry, Radio Industry Ministry, and Health Ministry, and members of the Transcarpathian Oblast public. It completed its work recently.

Our correspondent met with commission members A. Kuzmin and Defense Ministry representative Aviation Colonel General V. Kraskovskiy.

[Burbyga] First of all: Why do we need such large-capacity radar stations that frighten people living near them?

[Kraskovskiy] As is known, there are tens of thousands of objects of diverse provenance currently in near-earth orbit. There are defunct satellites and chunks of delivery vehicles regularly raining down on the earth, following near-ballistic trajectories. Clearly, a skilled and responsible assessment has to be made. Moreover, the United States has in recent years armed itself with new ballistic missiles with highly accurate multiple warheads—MX, Trident-2, and Midgetman. It was necessary, therefore, to modernize existing large-capacity radar stations capable of tracking objects in space. We can use them to obtain information in the event of a nuclear missile attack and to determine the time and space characteristics: the number of ballistic missiles in flight, their trajectories, the predicted point of impact....

[Burbyga] Obviously, stations of this kind are not exactly weak. Perhaps the populace really does have cause for concern. What did the expert appraisal indicate?

[Kuzmin] The commission's conclusion—I emphasize that it included representatives not only of "interested" departments, but also independent scientists, experts, and public figures, and they were unanimous in their assessments—is as follows: There is no possibility of the radar station's having a harmful effect on people. I will cite its findings: "The effective planned power of the radar station's electromagnetic waves will not exceed the norm set by health standards and the rules governing the protection of the population from the effects of electromagnetic waves created by radio engineering facilities." This means that on the territory adjoining the radar station health-protection zone the predicted electromagnetic waves will not exceed 10 microwatts per square centimer, which is comparable to the output of powerful television transmitters and domestic UHF appliances. This is the lowest permitted level. Our normatives for the population are significantly lower than U.S. standards and the recommendations of the international committee for protection against nonionizing radiation. However, in view of the sociopsychological situation that has taken shape in the area, the commission agreed to reduce these norms. It was recommended that the electromagnetic waves be reduced hundreds of times over.

[Burbyga] So why are passions running so high over the facility that is under construction?

[Kraskovskoy] The reasons lie in ill-informed people and our "hypervigilance." Judge for yourself. A facility is under construction and the populace is initially told that an air force base is being constructed, and then the antics become utterly absurd.... In short, everything was done to generate rumors and conjecture that a nuclear reactor was going to be installed at the facility.

[Burbyga] Nevertheless, people's mind's were not put at rest when they discovered it was going to be a radar station—they started making new demands, ecology-related. Perhaps the radar station should have been constructed in another place with a smaller population?

[Kuzmin] Its positioning is not a whim on our part. We have several radar stations in the Western area, one of them in Kuldigskiy Rayon, Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR]. The site was chosen on the basis of experts' conclusion and the demands of the detection system. The population's safety was taken into account as a matter of course. Moreover, the 1972 USSR-U.S. treaty "On the Limitation of ABM systems" says that missile attack warning systems must be deployed on the periphery of national territory and be oriented outward.

[Burbyga] The population of Transcarpathian Oblast is having problems with drinking water. Now they have the radar station, which will require large stocks to keep it going....

[Kuzmin] A water supply has been surveyed and constructed for the radar station. The commission came to the conclusion that it does not endanger mineral water stocks. There is little likelihood of the water supply's affecting the subsoil water level in nearby population centers. A technique was found of reducing the radar station's water consumption by between two-thirds and four-fifths. The water that is saved will be used to meet the population's needs.

[Burbyga] You mentioned the radar station on the territory of the Latvian SSR. What is the situation there?

[Kuzmin] When the radar station was put there, everything had seemingly been taken into consideration. It was a remote, swampy area. But we were still reproached by people saying that the radar station would emit electromagnetic radiation.

We are willing to discuss things with the population. We are willing to show them everything. Moreover, in order to relieve the psychological tension we proposed setting up a permanent measuring laboratory on wheels, which would have members of the local populace working in it. We are drawing up a health record, which will reflect all the parameters amd characteristics of the electromagnetic field. The radar station will not be launched until everything is as it should be.

[Burbyga] What similar systems do they have in the United States? Where are they located?

[Kraskovskiy] The U.S. nuclear missile attack warning system is based on space and ground reconnaissance facilities. There are radar stations on the ground. They are located both on the U.S. mainland (six radar stations) and on the territory of other states—in Greenland and Britain. We regard this as a contravention, but the

Americans argue that the stations were put on other countries' territories long before the treaty was signed.

And another thing: U.S. permitted health norms are more than 10 times higher than ours. As a rule, the facilities are located in densely populated areas. But this does not pose any special problems. Because both the local authorities and the military explained things to the populace in good time.

I would add to this the fact that the presence of radar stations both in the USSR and in the United States is envisaged by the relevant treaties. And this balance must not be upset.

Swiss Technology To Be Used at Chernobyl

PM0905075190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Yu. Kosinskiy dispatch under the rubric "Switzerland": "Technology for Chernobyl"]

[Text] Geneva—The Soviet Union will become the first country in the world to possess the latest technology for decontaminating radioactive metal. Starting January 1991 a plant under construction at the Chernobyl AES [nuclear electric power station] and fitted out with the latest equipment derived from technology developed by the Swiss company "Retsitek" will be able to decontaminate up to five tonnes a day of the diverse metal equipment which has accumulated in the station's area.

The siting at the AES of an enterprise equipped in line with Swiss technology became possible thanks to an agreement signed March this year between the Soviet association "Atomenergoeksport" and the Swiss company "Retsitek," which specializes in the transfer of advanced technology.

The features of the Swiss technology are its highly effective decontamination of radioactive metals at a relatively low process cost. The process' basic principle is the decontamination of metals which are immersed for a set time in a concentrated acid solution. It is as if the acid, by eating away the metal's surface, washes out the radioactive particles, which form a sediment. The waste from "washing" 100 tonnes of metal fits into a container measuring 30 cm by 30 cm.

Decontaminated radioactive metal becomes safe to man and the environment and can be utilized as secondary raw material. Major U.S. transnational corporations controlling the nuclear power industry are also showing great interest in the Swiss technological innovation acquired by the Soviet Union.

AES experts think that there is a great future for enterprises concerned in decontaminating the production equipment of AES's. There is an increasing number of outdated AES's requiring overhaul or modification in the world. By the year 2000 there will be around 40 such stations in various countries. The main work at them is linked to the need for preliminary equipment decontamination. As yet this process is not sufficiently perfected and is extremely expensive—around $20 for every decontaminated kilogram of metal. Countries possessing the advanced and economical technology for decontaminating equipment and radioactive metals can earn or save hundreds of millions of dollars and guarantee the safe protection of man and the environment from the rays of "the invisible death."

Belorussian Elections Held for Supreme Soviet

LD0705104790 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1002 GMT 7 May 90

[Report by TASS correspondents Vladimir Bogdanov and Vladimir Glod]

[Text] Minsk 7 May (TASS)—Following a third round of voting, the Belorussian Supreme Soviet now has 29 more deputies. Altogether 60 percent of the electorate participated in the elections. The elections were declared null and void in nine constituencies where less than half of the electorate turned out to vote.

The elected deputies include lawyers, republican KGB officers, doctors, teachers, and party officials. All 29 of the new parliamentarians are communists. There is just one woman among them.

Thus 317 of the 360 seats in the republic's parliament have been filled. Another round of voting will be held before 19 May. However, the Belorussian Supreme Soviet will start work on 15 May, since the requisite quorum of two-thirds of the total membership has already been reached.

Belorussia Discusses 'Economic Sovereignty'

LD0805153590 Minsk Domestic Service in Belorussian 0515 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] At the latest meeting of the Presidium of the republic's Council of Ministers a concept of Belorussia's economic sovereignty was discussed. The chairman of the Belorussian Council of Ministers, his deputies, the minister of finance, scientists, and economists exchanged their views at the session. The draft concept was approved in general. After some amendments are made, the document will be submitted for discussion at the republic's Supreme Soviet.

The Belorussian Gosplan [State Planning Committee] was instructed to submit concrete proposals in no more than three days on how the principle of economic sovereignty is to be formed and the switch-over to market economy achieved. It will also prepare draft treaties between Belorussia and the [Soviet] Union and between Belorussia and other Union republics.

The framework of Belorussia's switch-over to regulated market economy will be submitted to the republic's Council of Ministers not later than 1 July 1990.

Moldavians Reject Renaming of Supreme Soviet

PM2704112590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 27 Apr 90 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report under the general heading: "At Supreme Soviet Sessions"]

[Text] Kishinev, 26 Apr—Disputes about the draft interim regulation on the republic's parliament have been raging for two days now at the Moldavian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet session. Deputies' opinions were divided even on its name.

The editorial commission elected by the session made use of two versions in working out a draft—a basic version, proposed by the Supreme Soviet, and an alternative one put forward by a group of deputies, as well as proposals made during the discussions. It is being proposed in particular that the Supreme Soviet be renamed "Sfatul Tseriy" ("The Country's Soviet"), in line with the name of the organ of power which existed in Bessarabia from 1917. However, this would require an amendment to the Moldavian SSR Constitution. Such a decision can be adopted by two-thirds of the elected deputies' votes. But this proposal did not gain the necessary number of votes.

Caucasus

Armenian Party Begins Congress Preparations

PM0805141790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 90 Second Edition p 2

[Own correspondent A. Sarkisyan report: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] Yerevan, 5 May—An Armenian Communist Party Central Committee plenum has been held here. It considered questions concerning the convocation of the routine 29th Armenian Communist Party Congress, the report and election campaign within the republic's party organizations, the elaboration of the Armenian Communist Party's draft program and statutes, and elections of delegates to the 28th CPSU Congress.

Opinions were exchanged on the reports delivered by V. Movsisyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, and O. Lobov, Armenian Communist Party Central Committee secretary. When discussing the proposed agenda, the speakers expressed serious concern about the current political situation within the Armenian Communist Party and advocated the speediest elaboration of a consolidating program for the Communist Party to reflect the interests of the Armenian people and of each citizen of the republic and Armenia's specific problems. The plenum participants advocated setting up a Council of National Accord and strengthening legality and law and order in the republic.

It was decided to convene the Armenian Communist Party Congress this November. A commission was set up to elaborate the Armenian Communist Party program and statutes. The procedure and dates for electing delegates to the 28th CPSU Congress were outlined.

'Green' Movement Holds Founding Session in Baku

LD0805204390 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1109 GMT 8 May 90

[Text] Baku, 8 May (TASS)—The Caspian which is polluted by industrial and domestic waste and the dead zone around the chemical factory of Sumgait—these and other sore points in Soviet Azerbaijan have become an object of fixed attention for the Greens in this republic in the Transcaucasus. The movement held its constituent conference in Baku today.

Among those who are campaigning for envionmental purity are teachers and academics, staff at the republic's Committee for Environmental Protection, and sanitary-epidemiological stations and students. The aim of their actions is to normalize the ecological situation in the republic and improve legislation on environmental protection and bring it into line with international conventions.

The Greens are demanding complete declassification of information on ecological and health emergencies and favor independent ecological expert inspection of important national economic installations.

Azerbaijan Parties Meet for Talks in Moscow

PM2804184990 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 28 Apr 90 p 1

[A. Mursaliyev report: "Down Bayonets?"]

[Text] Representatives of Azerbaijan's various political forces have met together for the first time since the January tragedy. Admittedly, this did not take place in Baku but in Moscow. A scientific and technical conference entitled "The Sociopolitical Crisis in Azerbaijan and Means of Escaping From It" lasted two days here, in the Azerbaijan Permanent Mission building. USSR and Moscow Soviet people's deputies, leading scientists from the republic and Moscow, and Russian informals took part in the meeting along with representatives of the Azerbaijan Communist Party, the People's Front, Social Democrats, the Party of National Accord, and the Greens.

What lies in store for the republic in the future: civil peace or unabating civil war? The meeting has as yet not given an unequivocal answer to this question. The sides' positions and their views of the future are too diverse.

Nevertheless there were a number of questions on which points of contact were found. The meeting's participants unanimously condemned the bringing in of troops to Baku 20 January, and acknowledged the need to reject political and personal ambitions and to jointly create an atmosphere of consensus.

Political Activists Placed Under House Arrest

NC0605130590 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 4 May 90

[Text] An ARMENPRES correspondent has requested Grant Melkonyan, second secretary of Stepanakert City Party Committee, to give a brief account of the situation prevailing in the city.

Melkonyan said [words indistinct] that the incident which took place here recently left its mark on the situation in Stepanakert. The social tension is also explained by the fact that the military commandant decided to prohibit certain activists of the Karabakh movement—among whom are directors of enterprises—from leaving their houses until 10 May. As a result of this decision, the local [word indistinct] were unable to start their work for two hours because the director of the factory, its chief engineer, and the head of one of the production units were under house arrest. Only after the intervention of the labor collective council and city leadership were they allowed to leave their homes to carry our their official duties.

Such [words indistinct] are engendering an understandable reaction amongst the city and oblast workers, who gave a positive reception to the latest decisions of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's Supreme Soviet on the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO].

Melkonyan added that in general the Stepanakert enterprises and organizations are working at a normal pace, but [words indistinct]. Various consignments of freight are still waiting in freight cars in the train station [words indistinct]. As before, the oblast television is not broadcasting and the KHORHRDAYIN KARABAKH newspaper is under the cruel censorship of the military. [Word indistinct] the people of Artsakh are used to difficulties and to unjust treatment.

One wonders. Why did the leader of our republic make no effort throughout the entire period of the Karabakh movement to come anywhere near us and to see for himself the situation in the oblast? It is no secret that the course of restructuring proclaimed by him gave the people of the NKAO hope that their fate would improve.

As regards the 10 representatives here in Stepanakert, we did not feel that they, in contrast to the former Special Administration Committee, have been taking political measures that really address the vital interests of the NKAO Armenians; rather, they have been doing everything possible to break the will of the people, force them to forgo the aspirations for self-determination which are natural to each people, and compel them to abandon their native land for good. Will this come about?

Azerbaijan Issues Decree on Local Administration

LD0705110490 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 22 Apr 90 p 1

["Decree of the Azerbaijani Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium on Partial Changes in the Administrative-Territorial Division of Askeranskiy, Gadrutskiy, Mardakertskiy, and Martuninskiy Rayons and the town of Stepanakert in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of the Azerbaijan SSR"]

[Text] Azerbaijani Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium decides:

To make the following changes in the administrative-territorial division of Askeranskiy, Gadrutskiy, Mardakertskiy, and Martuninskiy Rayons and the town of Stepanakert in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of the Azerbaijan SSR:

In Askeranskiy Rayon

To place the settlement of Khodzhaly in the category of towns under rayon jurisdiction, keeping its old name. To form Khodzhaly town soviet, with its center in the town of Khodzhaly, abolishing Khodzhaly rural soviet.

To form Dzhamilli rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Dzhamilli, removing it from Ballydzha rural soviet.

To form Meshali rural Soviet, with its center in the settlement of Meshali, removing it from Dashbulak rural soviet.

In Gadrutskiy Rayon

To form Akhullu rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Akhullu, removing it from Edilli rural soviet.

To form Salakatin rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Salakatin, removing it from Azykhskiy rural soviet.

In Mardakertskiy Rayon

To form Bash-Gyuneypeya rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Bash-Gyuneypeya. To transfer the settlements of Bash-Guyneypeya and Orta Gyuneypeya in Chyldyranskiy rural soviet to Bash-Gyuneypeya rural soviet.

In Martuninskiy Rayon

To form Khodzhavend rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Khodzhavend; Muganly rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Muganly, and Amiranlar rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Amiranlar, removing them from Martuninskiy town soviet.

To include the settlement of Kuropatkino on the list of population points in the rayon. To form Korupatkino rural soviet, with its center in the settlement of Kuropatkino.

In the town of Stepanakert

To place the residential area of Kyarkidzhakhan in the town of Stepanakert into the category of town-type settlements, and to form Kyarkidzhakhan settlement soviet as part of Stepanakert town soviet.

[Signed] E. Kafarova, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;
R. Kaziyeua, secretary of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;
Baku, 21 April 1990

More on New Rayons

LD0805194590 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 26 Apr 90 p1

["Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbayjan SSR on the formation of Akstafinskiy, Gobustanskiy, Khyzinskiy and Adzhikabulskiy rayons in the Azerbayjan SSR"] [Text] The Presidium of the Azerbayjan SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet hereby resolves:

1. To form the Akstafinskiy Rayon with its center in the town of Akstafa. To transfer the Akstafa town soviet, the Kalininkend settlement soviet, and the Kyrakh-Kesaman, Dag-Kesaman, Dyuzkyshlak, Yenikend, Kechvelili, Kechasker, Marksovska, Muganly, Pirili, Poyli, Sadykhly, and Tatly rural soviets from Kazakhskiy Rayon to Akstafinskiy Rayon.

To form the Gobustanskiy Rayon with its center in the town settlement of Maraza. To transfer the Maraza settlement soviet and the Bedelli, Kurbanchy, Derekend, Arabkadim, Leninabad, Nabur, Narimankend, Poladly, Syundi, Khilmilli (apart from the villages of Agdere and Tudar), Dzheirli and Dzhamdzhamli rural soviets from Shemakhinskiy Rayon to Gobustanskiy Rayon.

To form the Khyzinskiy Rayon with its center in the village of Khyzy. To transfer the Altyagach, Kilyazi, Khyzy, and Shuraabad rural soviets from Apsheronskiy Rayon and the villages of Agdere and Tudar from the Khilmillinskiy rural soviet in Shemakhinskiy Rayon to Khyzinskiy Rayon.

To form the Adzhikabulskiy Rayon with its center in the town of Kazi-Magomed. To transfer the Kazi-Magomed town soviet and Mugan settlement soviet from the Ali-Bayramly town soviet, Abdulyan, Kalinovka, and Karasuin rural soviets from Sabirabadskiy Rayon, Atbulak, Navagy and Randzhbar from Sal'yanskiy Rayon, and Udully rural soviet from Shemakhinskiy Rayon to Adzhikabulskiy Rayon.

2. To approve the borders of the newly created rayons in accordance with the graphics presented by the Azerbayjan SSR Council of Ministers.

3. To establish that deputies on soviets of people's deputies whose territory has been transferred to newly formed rayons should retain their powers in the relevant soviets until the next elections of deputies on local soviets of people's deputies in the republic are held.

[Signed] E. Kafarova, chairman of the presidium of the Azerbayjan SSR Supreme Soviet

R. Kaziyeva, secretary of the Presidium of the Azerbayjan SSR Supreme Soviet

Baku, 24 April 1990

New Rayon Party Secretary Elected in NKAO

NC0605162090 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 23 Apr 90

[Text] Yerevan, 23 Apr (ARMENPRES)—ARMENPRES special correspondent Aleksandr Grigoryan reports from the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] that the Martuninskiy Rayon Party Committee in the NKAO held a plenum and discussed organizational questions.

Acceding to his request, the plenum relieved Vachakan Grigoryan of his duties as first secretary of the rayon party committee and of bureau membership in connection with his transfer to other duties.

By a closed "secret" ballot, Oleg Yesayan was unanimously elected first secretary of Martuninskiy Rayon Party Committee and a member of the bureau. He was the former head of the oblast's party socioeconomic department.

Georgian Research Reactor Being Dismantled

PM0805144190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 May 90 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Reactor Being Dismantled"]

[Text] Tbilisi—Work on dismantling a nuclear research reactor has begun at the nuclear center of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic Academy of Sciences Institute of Physics.

It has worked for almost three decades and helped physicists to carry out important research in obtaining a new class of promising structural materials. The institute has essentially fulfilled the functions of the country's umbrella organization for low-temperature radiation materials technology. During all the years of its work the reactor has harmed neither people nor the environment.

However, mindful of its potential danger and of the public demand for the reactor to be eliminated, the Georgian Academy of Sciences Presidium adopted the decision to dismantle the research installation.

Central Asia

Muslims Demonstrate; Tashkent Parade in Doubt

LD0705170390 Vilnius Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 7 May 90

[Reports by POSTFAKTUM Correspondent (Andrey Makarov]

[Text] Tashkent, 4 May—Many thousands of Muslims took part in demonstrations in the Uzbek capital. After the Friday prayers, the Muslims headed in columns to the city center. They demand the replacement of Mufti of Asian Muslims Mukhammadsadyk Mamayusupov, and also the resignation of the Republican party leadership. The demonstration was organized by members of the Vakhabi Muslim organization who had arrived the day before; this organization has never previously carried out such an action. The demonstrators, heading in to the city center, threw stones at state institutions buildings, and also at militia details specially drawn up along their route. The Oktyabrskiy Rayon military commissariat was attacked. Large-scale clashes took place on Friendship of the Peoples Square between the 2,0000-strong crowd and subunits of special-purpose militia who were blocking off the central part of the city. Neither side has as yet used firearms [as heard].

Tashkent, 6 May—There is a question hanging over whether a military parade is to be held in the city. Troops of the Turkestan miltiary district held their usual training session before the parade and military equipment has been made ready. However, the POSTFAKTUM news agency correspondent has discovered from well-informed sources, given the increasingly difficult situation in Uzbekistan, that the republican leadership considers it undesirable for a military parade to be held on Victory Day.

New Democratic Party Founded in Uzbekistan

LD0805122490 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1110 GMT 8 Mar 90

[Text] Tashkent, 8 May (TASS)—TASS correspondent Irina Grebenyuk reports:

A new political party has been created in Uzbekistan. It is called the Democratic party "Erk" ["Will"]. At the inaugural congress in Tashkent, the capital of the republic, its representatives elected Mukhammad Solikh, a 40-year-old poet and secretary of the Union of Writers of Uzbekistan, as its chairman. The rules and program of the party were adopted at the congress. The program covers the struggle for human rights, the national rebirth of the republic, and economic and political sovereignty for Uzbekistan within the framework of a renewed Soviet Federation. The new party is opposed to ethnic strife and in favor of consolidating all the peoples living in the republic.

Uzbek Party Sets Up Body To Examine 'Disorder'

LD0705223990 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0100 GMT 6 May 90

[Text] The Communist Party of Uzbekistan Central Committee set up a commission to investigate the (?causes) and aftermath of the disorder which took place on 2 May 1990 in Andizhan. Chairing the commission is Mirsaidov, chairman of the UzSSR [Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic] Council of Ministers. Dzhurabekov, deputy chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers, is the deputy chairman of the commission. [Name indistinct], section head of the Uzbek SSR Council of Ministers, is the secretary of the commission. Representatives of party, soviet, and law enforcement bodies, of public organizations, and of USSR and Uzbek SSR deputies were included in the composition of the commission. The commission was entrusted with stabilizing the situation in Andizhan, taking urgent measures to find the organizers and participants of disorders and bring them to responsibility, investigating the moral and psychological situation in the oblast as well as the political and socioeconomic situation, and taking relevant measures.

Article on Poverty, Disaffection in Andizhan

PM0805113190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 90 Second Edition p 3

[Article by V. Gorshenin, Moscow University student and PRAVDA special correspondent, with commentary by V. Tsybukh, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet State Committee for Youth Affairs, carried under the "Years of Youth" rubric: "Where Shall We Meet, Akbar?"]

[Text] Andizhan Oblast - Moscow— Perhaps it was life that brought us together. We had much in common: We were the same age and from the same region—both from Andizhan. Perhaps 10-15 years ago, when we were boys, we even scrapped. And maybe, a little later, we met in Moscow by a job display board. Although, it is hardly likely. I tried not to stop at those grimy job announcements. I felt uncomfortable somehow. I immediately sensed in their wording the contempt for the "applicant" expressed in the demeaning term "quota." That is why, when I did not go to university after school, I returned home.

Akbar stayed in Moscow. He fixed himself up with a job at a bearings plant. And another, unfamiliar life took its course. During the day there was the eternal grumbling of the foreman, boring work on obsolete machines (quota-workers are not allowed to get near new ones), and the daily fears as to whether tomorrow would bring worse. In the evenings the search for a quiet nook in the workers' hostel, where most of the "temporaries" swap accounts of the day's experiences. There is an axiom which goes that a person becomes what those around want to see him as. The Moscow plant "saw" him as being second-rate, belonging to that category of people who quite often hear from the lips of the "first-rate" inhabitants: "We must get rid of the city quota system!"

We went off to do our service in the Army at roughly the same time. And returned to "civvy life" at the same time. I managed to get myself a job in a plant in Andizhan.

Akbar did not, and he was forced to return to the bearings plant in Moscow. However, he did not last long in the capital.

He returned home. To a family where R380 does for 23 people. He now mooches around for days on end with people of his own age who are jobless.

"We have a lot of people like that," said A. Rakhmanov. "Only two of the 17 guys in our class have managed to get a job. And it is completely pointless to talk about the girls...."

You are amazed, to be honest: How do the people of my region cope, what do they live on? Ruzmat Mamadzhanov, the oldest child of retired parents, is 21. It is impossible to increase the family budget by even a kopek: There is no work. Six of us have to make ends meet on R140.... Tulchibay Kabulov, an elder on the "Oktyabr" kolkhoz [collective farm], lives in a family of 20 people. The total budget is R335. Or, in terms of each household member, 56 kopeks per head per day!

But it is simply not enough to calculate how and on what people live in this long-suffering valley. You also have to know the conditions in which they live and work (some people do have that chance). How they take the fruit and vegetables from their allotment straight to the market without even tasting them. Just to put bread into their children's mouths! You should see the kind of water they have to make soup with, the kind of houses they live in, and the sheds they study in....

Andizhan Oblast is one of the smallest in the country—4,200 square km. And with the highest population density: 420 people per square km.

And Andizhan Oblast also holds another sorry record. According to official figures, the mobile part of the unemployed population is 80,000. But, according to a report by the obkom [oblast party committee] socioeconomic department, in agriculture the bulk of the people currently registered as employed on the statistics are in fact surplus on public sector cultivated land—around 190,000 people on 250,000 hectares. Therefore the presumed level of unemployment here is 150,000. The same as in the GDR and Hungary combined.

It was a quarter of a century ago, when young people would throw peaches to one another, a skewer of shashlik cost 20 kopeks, and this paradise valley still flourished despite the planned economy, that today's demographic crisis was burgeoning. Alas, no one thought about it or guessed! The plan obscured people's vision and thinking and the departments just went on pumping out raw materials from the region. And life too. The figure for meat consumption per head of population of this most fertile valley is notoriously very small. And it is not just meat—fruit and vegetable consumption is below the all-Union level too. And those who dwell there are unemployed, illiterate, and starved in spirituality. Shorn from their ancient roots and traditions to gratify absurd new ones. And isn't that the source of the confusion and the upsurge of despair and violence?

I met with Akbar at a kolkhoz propaganda center. He was waiting with friends to see whether a movie would be forthcoming. It wasn't. And the young men started wandering around the settlement.

That is the way life is throughout the oblast. Even in Andizhan's "Cheremushki," where over 60 percent of the people live in four residential districts, there is only one moviehouse. It is known as "the house of repeats."

One morning I saw some teenagers in one of the districts being carted off to the police station: They had been drinking local port near some garages.

The militia captain spoke bitterly about such regular "clients" of his at the station. But what can the militia do? We catch them, send them off to reformatory. And what then?

New adolescents replace them, with the same sense of hopelessness and of being in a dead end: They are surplus to requirements! There is nowhere to play sports; even ramshackle halls are a dream for the local boys. And if you yourself want to turn some empty cellars into games rooms for the kids, you virtually have to fight a civil war with the older generation....

And what about spiritual food? That's a little easier perhaps, but the reading rooms are empty and the number of people on the library subscription list is minimal. You don't feel like reading, do you, when the horizons of your world are dictated by a meager daily diet?

And the education system here lacks a sound base. There is a shortage of teachers throughout the oblast. In November 1989 alone the oblast's Komsomolabadskiy Rayon needed 48 teachers. It is primary class teachers who are most needed! But who is going to go to a place where the school is an adobe hut? In winter the kids are constantly ill, spring is the time for them to harvest vegetables, while in the fall they have to help their families in the cotton fields....

It is said that life teaches all. And it does. Only a quite different hierarchy of values. It is scarcely dusk before you begin to notice guys here and there in secluded places. And the cigarette that is circulating: The sole "recreation" is hashish.

New contacts with "criminal elements" get started right away. How many of them are there? Out of the 60,000 inhabitants of the residential districts there are around

200 persistent offenders, who, after serving their punishment, are unable to find themselves a job. So they ramble.

And alongside them the kids from the colleges. They are equally unemployed. In Rural Vocational and Technical College No. 1, for example, the administration still does not know how and where its 170 graduates of 1990 will find work. But that is a mere detail. In total more than 1,000 young people who graduated from the oblast's vocational and technical colleges last year have been unable to find themselves a job....

The kids have to struggle on their own and to beg and plead just to get hired! But the the job market is tough. To get fixed up even as a fitter's mate you have to hand over R150. I was told this at the Komsomol [All-Union Lenin Communist Youth League] gorkom [city committee].

The unemployed are the most vulnerable social group in the population. They have an important distinguishing feature—high mobility. Let us recall who it was who played the most active part in the Fergana, Dushanbe, Alma-Ata, and Novokuznetsk events. It was such young people—restless and devoid of any hope for the future. And the moral vacuum is quickly filled by extremism and by a hatred of those "on the margin."

By way of information: The average age of the inhabitants of Andizhan Oblast is just over 24. The average age of the unemployed is 21. Young people make up 80 percent of the "surplus" people who have not found a job.

And we do nothing but wait. Sometimes reminiscent of rescuers or firemen—the name is beside the point. Are we really only able to think about these things after the introduction of a state of emergency?

During discussion of the draft Law "On the Basic Principles of State Youth Policy" USSR Supreme Soviet deputies noted the need for a section on socioeconomic safeguards. An article on youth unemployment has been included.

I hope that the Supreme Soviet members will remember the draft law again. And that we will not then have to wait for the fifth or sixth session, when the Law "On Employment"... is to be discussed....

Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov visited the republic after the well-known Fergana tragedy. A special USSR Council of Ministers resolution was then published. Its main feature was job creation. Has this problem now been exhausted?

"The closer I get to the heart of what is happening," I. Kochmarik, second secretary of Andizhan party obkom, said, "the more I am convinced that this mass of contradictions will scarcely be unraveled by the end of the five-year plan. Even if the Council of Ministers resolution is carried out. The creation of rayon industrial centers only alleviates tension temporarily, but today an alarming trend is observable—a constant increase in the number of settlement inhabitants. Will we start creating industrial centers there in five years time? No, that is not the solution to the problem..."

Social tension is increasing all the time. Young people's discontent is also growing. People are becoming afraid to go out onto the streets of cities and settlements at night. Clashes between criminal groups have increased. The Internal Affairs Administration recently asked the public to help them investigate a theft in a school. A theft of rifles....

I do not know in what circumstances fate will unite Akbar and me again. Over a plate of pilaf? At an unemployment office. Or in the middle of a furious crowd?.... [Gorshenin ends]

Authoritative Commentary

It cannot be said that society has suddenly been confronted with the idea of "youth unemployment." No, it announced itself some time ago now. But it is only now that the first, as yet approximate statistics have begun to appear that we are starting to see clearly how dangerous this destabilizing factor is. The article correctly notes that young people have been to the fore in all the conflicts which have rocked the southern republics. The nationalist mafiosi found it very easy to incite them to commit crimes, intoxicating them with drugs and false promises.

But let us look at how the present situation is influencing the level of youth employment. The new conditions of economic management are pushing young people out of the labor sphere. There are hundreds of thousands of unemployed young people in the Central Asian and transcaucasian republics alone. The new demographic situation could also have a very grave influence on the employment problem in the near future. From 1995 the size of the working age population will increase 2.5-3 times in a five-year plan period.

A working party to study these problems has been set up inside the USSR Supreme Soviet State Committee for Youth Affairs. And there are far more questions than answers to date. Take, for example, the following fact. Some 400,000 children leave school while 200,000 graduate from vocational and technical colleges. Where are they? What is happening to them? Why does this kind of information become known only years later?

Or another example, one which was mentioned at a committee session where together with specialists we tried to get to grips with this problem. It turned out that one-third of vocational and technical college graduates are unable to find themselves a job.

It is awful to imagine how many future social conflicts and tragedies are beginning to be adumbrated right now. Nor must it be forgotten that it will be the generation which runs the country tomorrow which will have to suffer these tragedies....

So the problem raised in the article "Where Shall We Meet, Akbar?" acquires a sharply disquieting resonance. Specialists maintain that the mass of problems concentrated in Andizhan Oblast will soon embrace the whole Central Asian region. A program of emergency measures is therefore essential, I think. But not a program hastily drawn up merely to dampen passions. No, it requires a serious, in-depth scientific plan with a clear concept and, if you wish, a financial breakdown.

We cannot allow young people to exist in a state of ignorance and fear about the future. That is the stance adopted by our committee; it also constitutes our practice as deputies.

Turkmen Official Backs Call for Party 'Cohesion'

PM3004104190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Apr 90 Second Edition p 3

[Letter from S. Pirmukhamedov, chairman of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Party Control Committee, under the rubric: "Discussion Page No. 26. The Party and Perestroyka Toward the 28th CPSU Congress" and the general heading: "Your Stance, Communist!": "We Advocate Purification"]

[Text] In our republic we say: When there is no strong brotherhood, the smell of bread does not please you and the heat of the hearth does not warm you. In my opinion, the paragraphs of the CPSU Central Committee Open Letter are in harmony with the people's wisdom, which calls for unity and cohesion. The letter stirred the republic's communists and working people. There is no friction here, as can be witnessed by debates at the report and election conferences and meetings where this document is being discussed, meetings in labor collectives, and letters sent in to the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee.

It is strange to hear all kinds of conjectures to the effect that apparently Turkmenia is at a standstill and there is no perestroyka. But is it possible to pass off endless rallies and strikes as perestroyka? Instead of that, my compatriots have significantly increased their work, and the democratic changes in this respect are an excellent basis.

The Turkmen Communist Party has done a great deal to improve the situation, overcome political apathy, and purify its ranks. Suffice it to say that hundreds of rogues and idlers have been expelled from the party, many of whom held important posts in the time of stagnation. Indeed, as the Open Letter said, the time has come when we must deal with those who have placed themselves outside their party by their illegal actions. In every specific case the party organizations give a sharp and principled assessment, as in the case of N. Nurmamedov, the "Tsentravtotekha" leader, who was expelled from the party by the Leninskiy Raykom [rayon party committee] for violating the CPSU Statutes.

I believe that it is very important for us to unequivocally oppose forces that want to drive our ship off course and steer it to the left or to the right, or else to plunge it into the gulf of civil confrontation. The CPSU Central Committee Open Letter appeals to all communists and all honest people to do this.

And if every party organization turns up to full strength all potential party influence, then labor collectives will increase their work. And this is so necessary now, at a complex and responsible time for the party—the end of the five-year plan.

[Signed] S. Pirmukhamedov, chairman of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee Party Control Committee, Ashkhabad